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IF artist dives into her latest project

SEE PAGE 20

Blooming good ideas in our spring feature

SEE INSIDE

BOY from MK's 'Winter Blunderland' shows his sharp skills as he throws knives at Britain's Got Talent judge Simon Cowell. Read about his near miss on page 9.

Supermarket would have 'harmed' town

BY JAMES AVERILL

james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A SUPERMARKET that would have 'killed off' a town centre will not be built – after a planning inspector rejected an appeal.

Publishing the results of a two-week long public inquiry, planning inspector Melvyn Middleton ruled that the potential development of Cofferidge Close in Stony Stratford 'would be harmful to the character and appearance' of the town. Developers CBRE Global Investors had appealed against a decision by Milton Keynes Council in March last year to reject planning permission to demolish the existing Budgens store, two office wings and the dental practice to build a larger supermarket.

Residents had joined forces with the local council to express concerns at the controversial scheme.

Rob Gifford, chairman of Stony Stratford Town Council, said: "Stony has been under siege for the last four years by big commercial interests at odds with the good health of the town. The owners were only interested in enhancing the value of their property, not with estimating what the town needed or what residents thought."

Resident Tony Kaye, who was also a member of the Save Cofferidge Close Group, said the development would have 'killed-off town trade'.

Iain Stewart, MP for Milton Keynes South, was one of those who spoke out against the development at the public inquiry, which was held at the Cock Hotel last month.

He said: "I am delighted it will not be going ahead. I think the development would have been highly damaging to local businesses and the general atmosphere of Stony Stratford.

"It is important we preserve what is already a successful high street."

A spokesman for Cofferidge Close owners CBRE told MK NEWS they were 'not able to comment'.

Police search for attempted rape witness

POLICE are asking for a woman who may be an important witness to an attempted rape to come forward.

A 29-year-old woman was walking in Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, between 5.45am and 5.50am on Good Friday when she was grabbed from behind by a man.

The offender wrestled her to the floor before she fought him off by biting him on the hand and neck and fled the scene.

Officers increased patrols in the area following the attack and would like to speak to a woman who was walking in North Eighth Street shortly before the incident and then crossed the bridge into Conniburrow.

She was wearing a high-visibility vest or jacket and police believe she walked past both the victim and the offender moments before the offence took place.

Investigating officer, Detective Constable Greg Hughes, said: "If you think you might be this witness, or know who the woman is, please contact police immediately via 101."

The offender is described as white with short light hair, of average build, in his 20s to early 30s and taller than 5ft 6in. He was wearing a grey jumper or hoodie.

The victim believes the offender spoke with an eastern European accent, possibly Romanian.

Detective Sergeant Luke Grove said: "Do you recognise the description of the offender, or do you know someone that has presented bite marks on their hands and neck?"

Anyone with information should call police on 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

A 26-year-old man arrested on suspicion of attempted rape has been released on bail until June 4.

Top Model's award set to boost career

A MODEL'S star is on the rise after he won an award at the final of Top Model UK 2014.

As MK NEWS previously reported, James Tobia, 22, was chosen as one of 160 finalists.

The Two Mile Ash resident won the male category style award on April 5.

Since then James has been scouted by top agencies and is attending interviews this week to discuss contracts.

He said: "My modelling is moving forward and I hope to be in the next London Fashion Week too.

"I won the male category style award which was based on my beachwear outfit and on my catwalk showing the outfit off.

"This award was one of the main awards and I am so amazed to get it and it has got me great exposure in the modelling industry and throughout London."

James was joined by fashion designers including Omar Mansor, AGA and Yunva Kim at the event at the Hilton London Metropole.

Top Model: James Tobia on the London catwalk during the finals

RSPCA investigates swan beheadings at lake

THE RSPCA has confirmed it is investigating attacks on swans at a city lake.

Three heads and a body of a swan were discovered in bushes at Mount Farm Lake.

A RSPCA spokesman said: "The RSPCA was contacted on Monday and will be looking into the attacks.

"In the majority of such cases, the causes are animal predation, but until we have seen the bodies we won't be able to comment on the cause of death."

The swans were discovered by Steavan Cooper, secretary of the Beacon Angling Club, which operates on the land owned by Milton Keynes Council, who said he was 'shocked' by his find.

The killing of wildlife at the city's lakes is an issue, according to Milton Keynes Angling Association chairman Trevor Johnson. He said wildlife is being killed by people from other countries, possibly Eastern Europe, and there needs to be better education.

Anyone with details should call the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999.

Pensioner dies after stairlift fall

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A PENSIONER who was thrown down a flight of stairs after his stairlift broke has died.

News that 93-year-old Leslie Taylor, from Downs Barn, had passed away emerged on Friday.

Following the incident in December, Mr Taylor's three daughters instructed lawyers to help their father gain access to the care and rehabilitation he would have required.

He was receiving ongoing treatment for his injuries, which included fractures to his neck and back, a broken rib which caused injuries to his lung resulting in pneumonia, a haematoma the length of his right side and the loss of a tooth.

Irwin Mitchell Solicitors is investigating why the seat detached from the lift when Mr Taylor began to descend, resulting in him being thrown backwards down a flight of stairs.

It asked Milton Keynes Council and Handicare Limited, which was contracted by the authority to install and maintain the seat, about what action was taken to ensure that the stairlift was safe.

Following the incident Nicholas Jackson, a serious injury expert at Irwin Mitchell, said: "Mr Taylor suffered horrific, life-changing injuries as a result of the incident that left him needing significant treatment and ongoing care.

"Prior to the incident Mr Taylor managed to live relatively independently but three months on from the accident after being transferred to a rehabilitation unit, Mr Taylor had to be readmitted to Milton Keynes General Hospital due to ongoing medical issues."

Previously daughter Lynn Nunn said: "We, as a family, just want answers and accountability about how such a thing could have happened.

"This may then enable us to begin to come to terms with it."

After the stairlift failure the council said it would be working with health services to address the issue.

Schools sent Atheist book

ALL of the city's secondary schools are being sent a copy of The Young Atheist's Handbook.

The national campaign is being led by the British Humanist Association and is supported by Milton Keynes Humanists.

The book, written by science teacher Alom Shaha, tells the story of his Bangladeshi Muslim upbringing in south London.

The campaign comes out in the wake of Prime Minister David Cameron calling Britain a 'Christian country'. His comment left more than 50 public figures feeling it was fostering division between religions.

MK Humanists' chairman Mike Flood said: "Alom's book is an invaluable resource for young people who want to explore how people who are not religious can find meaning and purpose in their lives. We are delighted that school libraries across the city will be getting copies.

"The book will help students and perhaps teachers too, come to their own decisions about their faith, values and beliefs. We are not anti-religion but want children to understand the choices they have."

■ What do you think? Email editor@mk-news.co.uk

We're on board with Monopoly

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

MORE than 6,000 votes have been cast to decide which landmarks will be included on the MK Monopoly board – and MK NEWS has been confirmed as one of them.

We've aptly been chosen for the Fleet Street square but three weeks since the big news announcement that the city is 'Passing GO' there have been some 'mind blowing' suggestions according to game bosses Winning Moves.

Votes have even come in from as far away as Canada and New Zealand.

Suggestions made so far include:

■ A cow to be a playing piece – to commemorate the famed sculptures

■ The board to be round rather than square – to celebrate the record number of roundabouts

■ Players fined for visiting Northampton or Luton

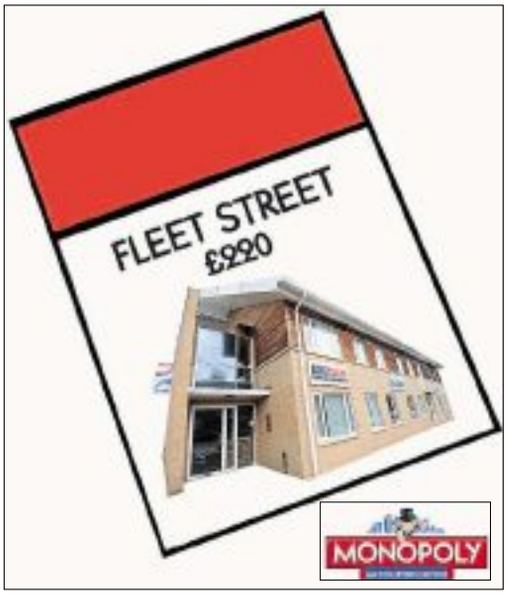
Meanwhile, many of the Community Chest and Chance cards will be customised too, and the four train stations from the original London board will take on a 'travel' feel.

Carys Underwood, marketing manager at DestinationMK, said: "It's amazing to see just how many votes are coming in for this brand new board. It's no surprise.

"We are very proud of our city and it is brilliant to know it will be forever immortalised on the most famous board game in the world. Please keep voting to make sure your choice gets on one of the coveted spots."

Nominations and suggestions can be sent to mk@winningmoves.co.uk or at www.facebook.com/mkmonopoly.

Voting closes on May 1.



We're on: MK NEWS will be on the 'Fleet Street' square on the city-themed Monopoly board which will be released in autumn

MKNEWSBRIEFS

Masked men in raid

THREE masked men robbed a house in Furzton before driving off with jewellery. The raid happened on April 15 at 6.30pm in Favell Drive. More on www.mkweb.co.uk.

Workers' shuttle bus

A NEW lunchtime shuttle bus service will be launched on Monday to enable 1,700 staff at the Tilbrook business estate to travel to Kingston centre for their lunch break.

Proposals on display

PLANS for 250 new homes and a country park at Linford Lakes will be on display at The Marle Inn from 2-8pm on April 30.

New care home could be built

A NEW 66-bed care home could be built in Westcroft by September next year.

A planning application has been submitted to Milton Keynes Council by Ideal Care Homes and Safeway Stores to build the three-storey centre in Barnsdale Drive.

Speaking to MK NEWS, Nick Broadbent, development director for constructors LNT, said the care home would likely be available for a number of dementia users should planning permission be granted by the council.

He said: "We hope that work can begin on building it this August if all goes well."

Concerns over 'splash park'

A POTENTIAL splash park has sparked fears from neighbours that it could cause anti-social behaviour if built.

Milton Keynes Council was set to decide last night whether it would transfer ownership of Rickley Park to West Bletchley Council. The local authority had already indicated in January that a splash park could be built at the location.

One neighbour complained the attraction would cause 'significant nuisance'.

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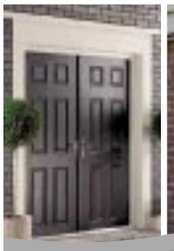

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Managing Director Billy Harley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Billy a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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Quick off the mark

CONCERNING a road in his own backyard, Cllr John Bint is said to believe that "cars can speed along the route too quickly" (MK NEWS April 16, *'Pair counting on a city street re-think'*).

Could those of us in other parts of MK who live alongside dangerous roads, such as the H9 Groveway, hope to win the support of the councillor in our attempts to limit speed?

Frederick Toates
Sent via email

Slowing things down

KEITH Taylor (MK NEWS March 26, *'MEP backs reducing speed'*) jumps on the standard bandwagon that speed is the root cause of all road mishaps.

Mr Taylor must assure me that his proposed speed reductions will be properly enforced on every inch of road within the boundary of Milton Keynes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 12 months of the year: that is 24/365.

Furthermore, has Mr Taylor considered the effect of a 20mph limit along state roads on the schedules of MK's local bus services. Most certainly it would be impossible to maintain present end-to-end journey times.

I estimate that a route such as my own Route 4, passing through four estates, will require at least four additional vehicles in order to maintain current frequency.

Will there be European funding for these buses?

If not who would pay for them?

I leave another reader to answer my question.

Leonard Lean
Greenleys

Home sweet home

TWO articles recently in your newspaper took my interest.

The first was the proposed 5,000 new homes for the city.

Why? Because the developers and contractors will be making tons of money and because homes in the UK are among the titchiest in Europe.

Typically a British home has 915 square feet of living space compared to Holland with 1,237sq ft and Denmark with 1,475sq ft.

With the reason being this country's building industry does it simply because it can. It gets more for less.

Then when it comes to council builds one in five do with less than the national average, just 322sq ft, a survey by Ikes found. This is confirmed in the findings of the British Institute of Architects that new homes have become increasingly tiny.

The second article was that futuristic transport or trams could get the green light in CMK.

I especially enjoyed the 80 per cent of stakeholders who agreed in what the article referred to as a 'fiery three-day workshop'.

First did anyone bring up the state of transportation after a weekend for those using it on a Monday. Or the cash cow a multi-storey car park will become for the owners and how much of it will need to be for employees of the centre.

As for the market area, I've never been impressed with the change from everyday people selling items to full-time shops selling cheap goods. But I'm probably in a minority because I don't have to provide for a family.

Robert E Lee
Conniburrow

We should think big

I WOULD like to express my ideas on what should be done to the future plans of CMK.

We have designed and built the city centre and rest of the town from scratch and have had some positive developments up until now. We should still be getting it right for future developments.

We should thinking on the architectural levels of the likes of Dubai!

Yes some developments, in my opinion, have been a mistake - like the Hub.

It's not the height of it, it's the way it looks. Better materials should have been used.

The whole block area has its back turned away from Witan Gate, a more frontal design would have created a proper walking street.

If I can suggest to the decision makers and the powers that be:

- Demolish some of the outdated buildings in the centre and replace them with something that will attract people to the city in the same way Central London attracts.
- Bulldoze the food centre, keeping the multi-storey car park section. Let's have a MK version of London's Trocadero.
- The central bus station needs ripping down with a big name hotel in front of the train station.
- Midsummer Boulevard has already been cut off by Midsummer Place shopping. It would be ideal to pedestrianise just that section up to Secklow Gate and create a 24-hour activity zone like Times Square, New York.

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A City Hall maybe, well why not?

- Midsummer Boulevard should be kept up to the city park. Remove all the parking along it, take it underground and bring the buildings closer to the road, thus create a walking route to the park.
- The whole of Secklow Gate can be raised on pillars from H5 Ports Way to H6 Childs Way, like an airport style beautifully designed elevated road so we can have future developments under the road with walkways.
- Turn some of the repeated roundabout junctions on H5/H6 into a flyunder/over for continuous flow city centre bypass traffic, similar to the 1970s CMK plan.
- Turn the North and South Row into another two boulevards with mixed use buildings, thus creating activity as it's such a dead zone area of the city, We should have a City Museum at the rear of the library with an underground car park. One major mistake with CMK was it should have been built with underground car parks for all the buildings.
- Let's have two or three tall skyscrapers with breathtaking world class iconic designs. Skyscrapers give that true city centre feel like London Docklands and the Far East in places like Hong Kong.

Oh and the red frame of the Point building, relocate it and light it up elsewhere in the city!

These are some ideas. . .shall I go on?

Jay Suthar
Sent via email

■ What do you think? Share your ideas by emailing letters@mk-news.co.uk

Jon Brett's City Life

His column written exclusively for MK NEWS

Let's pave the way for a more original mix

IT'S hard to get excited about a multi-storey car park.

And judging by the artist impressions published exclusively in this newspaper last week, it's even harder to design one which looks vaguely interesting.

To my untrained eye, it appeared to be red scaffolding around the existing shopping building, partly obscured with mature trees and matchstick cats and dogs.

As someone who enjoys architecture, and I'm aware the original shopping centre design was influenced by the German/American architect Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe, the proposed development appears to do little to enhance the building, which is Grade II listed.

With such a prime spot, do we really want to pave paradise and put up a parking lot? Okay. Okay. I know it is technically already a parking lot, but I couldn't resist the line.

Milton Keynes doesn't have a great track record when it comes to car parking. The pay and display around the centre is a confused mess of cheap and expensive, with the odd space reserved to charge your electric wheelchair. And unless you're local and know how long you're likely to be at the shops, visitors have to predict their shopping time and pre-pay.

This system doesn't encourage a leisurely browse around the shops.

The multi-storey by MK Theatre made headlines when they realised all the ramps were too narrow, and further afield at Bletchley Leisure Centre, the new car park there originally had no lift and poor disabled access. No doubt lessons were learned.

My suggestion would be to consider redeveloping the Food Centre and expanding the existing car park there, keeping it free for two hours, and extend the shopping building out beyond John Lewis with a new and original mix of retail, restaurants and leisure.

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On screen: Some of The Bletchley Circle cast

Petition to save Bletchley Circle

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

VIEWERS have started an online petition after ITV announced it is axing The Bletchley Circle.

The period drama, filmed at Bletchley Park, starred Anna Maxwell-Martin, Rachael Stirling, Alice Merren and Julie Graham.

Set in the early 1950s, the two series screened so far focused on four women who worked at the wartime code-breaking centre.

Series two of the drama, which aired in January, attracted more than four million viewers per episode.

Despite the success, cast members including Julie Graham have re-tweeted the news of the axing and encouraged viewers to protest against the decision.

People have been sharing a link across social media encouraging others to express their anger with ITV.

You can find out more at www.facebook.com/TheBletchleyCircleWatchers

A ITV spokesman said: "ITV has decided not to pursue a further series as we continue to refresh the mix of drama available to our viewers."

Katherine Lynch, media relations manager at the Bletchley Park Trust, said: "The Bletchley Circle has shone a light on the plight of women who, after their extraordinary achievements at Bletchley Park during World War Two, were expected to fade into domesticity and keep their success a secret for another 30 years.

"We hope it continues to attract people to visit us via repeats and the series DVDs."

Old hall remains discovered

FOUNDATIONS believed to be of a house that predated the iconic mansion at Bletchley Park have been found during restoration work.

Water Hall was built in 1711 but by the late 18th century it had fallen into disrepair and was demolished by 1806.

A section of in situ bricks were found during the digging of trenches for electricity cables within the last couple of weeks, as part of the £8million Heritage Lottery funded renovation.

Gillian Mason, Bletchley Park's curator, said: "We knew where the remains were likely to be but were by no means certain they had survived, so all due care was taken not to damage any archaeology that was found. It's yet another exciting discovery."

English Heritage's 2004 report on the importance of Bletchley Park says that a farmhouse existed in the vicinity of Water Hall in 1780 and that the mansion was actually the third significant house to be built.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Homes at Frosts

A PLANNING application has been submitted to build 53 homes at Frosts Landscape Construction's base in Wain Close, Wavendon. Frosts will be moving elsewhere in MK if it is granted permission.

Don't forget to vote

PEOPLE are being reminded to vote in the local elections on May 22. For more information on how to vote please visit www.mkweb.co.uk.

OAPs hospitalised

THREE pensioners were taken to MK Hospital after two cars collided on the A5 roundabout at Bow Brickhill at 11.47am last Wednesday.

Woman rescued from car fire

AN INJURED woman was rescued from a car fire by members of the public shortly before the emergency services arrived.

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service was called to the motor blaze at 6.22am on Easter Monday, following a road traffic collision at the junction of Watling Street and Standing Way in Furzton.

The woman had been released from the flames before crews from Bletchley and Great Holm arrived.

■ If you saw the incident or helped release the injured woman, please get in touch at editor@mk-news.co.uk.

Grenade found in clean-up

AN ARMED dye security cash box from a 2009 robbery and a replica hand grenade were found in the annual spring clean-up of the Grand Union Canal.

Volunteers from the Milton Keynes branch of the Inland Waterways Association were joined by scouts as they cleared a 10-mile stretch of the canal from Fenny Stratford to Old Wolverton between April 11 and 12.

■ Read more on this story at www.mkweb.co.uk

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Crew: l-r Marky Nursey, Adam Watson, Graham Britten (Bucks Fire solicitor), Jessica, Kevin Bird and Richard Allman

Feeling the heat with firefighters

News reporter Jessica Duncan became part of the crew as she spent the day with firefighters

Firefighter selfie: MK NEWS reporter Jessica Duncan with Broughton firefighter Marky Nursey back at the station

BROUGHTON Fire Station had its first female member of the crew on Thursday as I spent the day with them conquering fires and cutting cars.

Fortunately there were no Bridget Jones moments for this journalist as I arrived in my tracksuit ready to get stuck in.

After joining in with their morning parade, firefighter Adam Watson, also today's designated driver, got me kited out with the full gear.

Firefighters Marky Nursey and Richard Allman then started to show me how they checked all the equipment ready for the day ahead but a mere five minutes into our introduction a call came in.

Adrenalin was pumping as we threw our kit into station manager Paul Harrison's car.

At first, the call was reported as a domestic fire with two cats and one dog in the property but then neighbours questioned if someone was inside as a vehicle remained on the drive.

On arrival we could see smoke billowing out of the semi-detached house in Walton.

Marky and Richard were the first inside removing a front window of the house to gain access.

Richard said: "I could barely see my hand in front of my face there was that much smoke."

After extinguishing the blaze, which seemed to have started in the kitchen, both firefighters then worked room by room looking for life and making sure a second fire had not started anywhere.

Suddenly Richard emerged from the smoke with a little dog. He said he'd found it upstairs and at first it was reluctant to leave, but was soon very happy to be reunited with its owner.

Unfortunately neither of the family's cats survived.

The house was full of thick black smoke and the heat from the flames in the kitchen had left plaster hanging from the ceiling.

Most moving of all was seeing someone's home, with their children's drawings and their belongings, all ruined by smoke damage. The smell and how the smoke had engulfed each room was indescribable.

I was so impressed by how quickly the crew got their plan together, dividing the roles required and ensuring each aspect in and outside the building was covered.

When the homeowners arrived they kept them calm and talked them through everything while ensuring that despite their instinct to want to go inside they trusted the firefighters to do their job.

It was nice to see how much care they took to see if they were okay and that they understood everything - hopefully making their horrible experience a little more bearable.

Back at the station - we had training for a road traffic collision.

The crew helped me get stuck in treating the 'casualty' and cutting the roof off the car.

I even acted as a casualty myself and was lifted on to a stretcher.

The cutting equipment used here felt 10 times heavier than their normal breathing apparatus.

But once again they worked extremely well as a team and made me feel like one of them.

I was overwhelmed by how nice the whole crew were to me and despite being busy they were always on hand to explain what they were doing and give me a full insight.

At the end of my time there I felt like I really understood the essential work our firefighters do in the community and the extra mile they go to make sure residents are safe and know all prevention methods to hopefully mean you will never need them.

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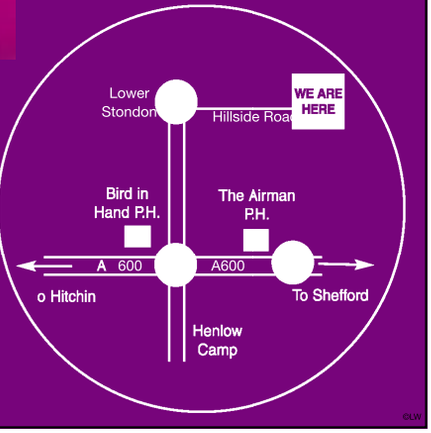

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Blunderland boy shows his Talent

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

AN 11-YEAR-OLD boy from Pinder's Circus, one of the main attractions at the infamous Winter Wonderland Milton Keynes, has wowed the judges on Britain's Got Talent.

Edward Pinder also stunned the audience on Saturday night as he threw knives at his mother Erika on the ITV show.

Britain's Got Talent judges Simon Cowell, Amanda Holden, David Walliams and Alesha Dixon were left speechless as young Edward told them he could kill his mum if it went wrong.

After the act Simon Cowell decided he wanted to get involved and got up on the stage.

Edward threw two knives at Simon with one bouncing back off the board.

Simon said: "I felt my life go in front of me then."

David Walliams put himself forward for their next performance as the act was voted through to the next round by all four judges.

Pinder's Circus is a family run act from Rutland that was started 200 years ago when a young boy ran off to join the circus.

The company includes Edward, Erika and Edward's father Eddy who, along with business partner Mike Lea, perform across the country with attractions such as clowns.

The circus was one of the headliners at Winter Wonderland Milton Keynes, which was cancelled in December after a Facebook group was set up.

People complained so much about the first day that the organiser cancelled the entire event and issued refunds.

Cutting audiences: Edward Pinder on BGT

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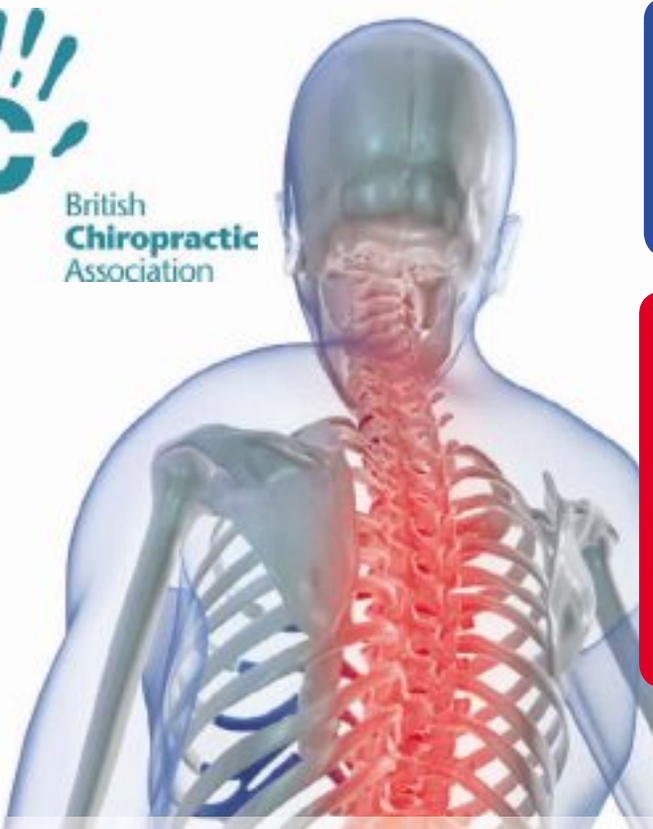

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Don orange for skipper 'Lewie'

Bright: Super-fan Dan McCalla

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

AN MK Dons fan wants everybody to wear orange for the club's final home game of the season to honour captain Dean Lewington.

The team's skipper plays his 500th match for Dons against Rotherham United in Yorkshire on April 26.

To celebrate Lewington's remarkable achievement, super-fan Dan McCalla wants his fellow supporters to wear orange clothing for the side's final home game of the season against Leyton Orient on May 3. The colour has been chosen to match Lewington's ginger hair.

"As fans we wanted to do something special to mark Lewington's 500th appearance," said Mr McCalla, who has been to every home and away Dons match for the past two seasons.

"To achieve 500 games for the same club before he even turns 30 is remarkable and this is just something simple that everyone can be involved with."

Mr McCalla has also set up the #orange4lewie hashtag on Twitter for anybody wanting to get involved. He hopes this fan initiative will help promote future ones.

"As a fanbase we don't do things like this very much and we should be to celebrate this kind of stuff."

Lewington has been there for every moment since MK Dons was formed 10 years ago, suffering relegation, promotion, a cup win at Wembley, several playoff heartaches and has been captain since 2008.

Dons manager Karl Robinson said: "He's an unbelievable man and we're very lucky to have him as our captain. I think it's great that the fans can show so much respect for him in such a unique and humorous way."

■ For more on Lewington's 500th game, see sport.

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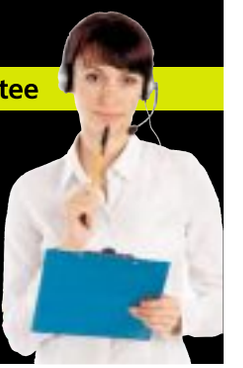

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Fresh start: Town councillors Emma Rymme and Keith Ely with Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council's regeneration office Barbara Sullivan at the bandstand, which could be moved to reopen Elizabeth Square to traffic

Town centre is set for change

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

RESIDENTS are being asked to submit their views on how a town centre can be regenerated.

Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council is currently looking at opportunities to improve Queensway as part of the regeneration of Bletchley.

Suggestions from residents so far have included moving the bandstand to the other end of Queensway in order for Elizabeth Square to be reopened as a through road.

The council also wants to hear from residents on whether more parking should be created and how the market can be improved and made to look more vibrant.

There will be a stand dedicated to the regeneration on Love Bletchley Day on May 3 where residents can give their views and suggestions.

All comments returned will be entered into a prize draw.

Barbara Sullivan, regeneration officer for the council, said: "We would like to see the look of Queensway improved and we will be at Love Bletchley Day to talk to people and find out how they feel about the centre and what they would like to see improved."

You can write in with your ideas or comments on how you would like to improve Bletchley town centre by emailing Barbara.sullivan@bfstc.co.uk.

There is also an online survey that can be filled in on our story at **www.mkweb.co.uk**.

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They were replaced with substitutes but some of them were not as prepared and found the going very tough.

It resulted in cases of severe dehydration and the game was called off.

The final whistle: Ronan Murphy and Paul Tomlinson from Mirus IT, which had to call off its world record footy bid

'Where are facilities for our community?'

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

COMMUNITY buildings are not being built quickly enough in an area of the city, according to residents.

Ethan Wilson, from the Newton Leys Residents' Association, has told Milton Keynes Council's cabinet that a play area, health facilities and allotments should have been provided in the area as part of Section 106 money from developers Taylor Wimpey.

He added that Newton Leys has about 500 houses, which is more than the 93 homes in Oakgrove, which already has a health centre and play areas. Work on the development began in 2007 and when finished it will consist of 1,650 properties.

"The development is nowhere near finished," Mr Wilson told the cabinet at a meeting last Wednesday.

"We are severely lacking in community facilities."

Councillor David Hopkins, portfolio holder for economic development and enterprise, said the financial crisis had halted progress. He said this meant trigger points for other community buildings had subsequently been missed.

A Taylor Wimpey spokesman said: "We are fully committed to delivering a range of community facilities and services as part of our Newton Leys development and are constantly reviewing our development strategy to ensure the delivery of these facilities meets the needs of the residents."

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Our next event is a participation forum on:
28th April, 13:30 to 17:30 and will be held at **Harben House, Tickford Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 9EY**

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These events require registration so if you would like to join us please go to **www.miltonkeynesccg.nhs.uk/events** for more information or call us on 01908 278697.

Want to know more?

Further events being held: 21st May.
For more information on the Milton Keynes Healthcare Review please visit our website on **www.shapingmkhealth.co.uk**

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Ed strikes a chord

Despite having had cancer since 2006 a school teacher continues to rock on. Jessica Duncan found out more.

AFTER being diagnosed with cancer, a much loved teacher has found listening to his doctor and a passion for music have been among some of the best medicine.

Ed Jones had taught PE at Denbigh School until blood test results from a swollen knee changed his life forever.

It was in early March 2006 that the 42-year-old came home from work to more than 10 missed calls from his doctor's surgery.

When he phoned them back he was told he needed to get to hospital as soon as possible.

Alarm bells started ringing and the dreaded news was confirmed when he arrived and was told to go to the Macmillan Ward.

Ed was then diagnosed with Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML) and would have to take pills for the rest of his life.

About 600 people in the UK are diagnosed with CML each year. People with it make too many of a type of white blood cell called a granulocyte. CML usually develops very slowly, which is why it's described as 'chronic'.

After his diagnosis doctors told Ed his brother was a

Breathless band: l-r Alex Burnhurst, Ed Jones and Simon Martin before their charity concert

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MK – Heathrow (T1-T5)	£67.50	£77.50	£88.50	£140.00
MK – Stansted	£72.50	£82.50	£92.50	£140.00
MK – East Midlands	£72.50	£82.50	£92.50	£140.00
MK – St Pancras (Eurostar)	£85.00	£100.00	£110.00	£145.00
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to cope with cancer

donor match but they would like to try the medication first.

Despite having to take a tablet every day Ed says: "If it isn't broke don't fix it.

"Whether I know everything about the illness or not, if the doctor says he wants me to take something I will. It would only upset me more if I knew what all the tablets' numbers meant."

Ed, who now teaches maths at Denbigh as his second subject PE was getting too much, has become an avid fundraiser. As MK NEWS previously reported, the Medbourne resident has raised more than £22,000 in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

And he has put his musical talents to good use by holding eight charity concerts since his diagnosis with his two bands The Enigmas and Breathless.

The article about this year's concert at Shenley Leisure Centre on April 5 went viral on social media as Ed's current and former students from Denbigh wanted to read more about their rocking teacher.

Ed said: "We have raised around £4,000 from this year's concert so far and I was overwhelmed by the good will and support.

At home: Ed Jones in Medbourne with his guitar selection

"The venue was packed with friends, parents and lots of my old students decided to have a reunion there."

Ed hopes to run the concert again next year but for now is taking some much earned rest until thinking about what he might do next. As an inspirational math teacher and rocker, Ed continues to embrace life - not letting cancer get in the way. In a direct message to anyone recently diagnosed, he added: "No one expects you to be a hero all the time, you don't always have to put on a brave face and you will have days when you get moody but doctors and charities are there for you and know what they are doing so listen to them."

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We reviewed a couple of pensions for a new client a couple of months ago. He was horrified to discover that he had made a death benefit nomination to leave his pension to his wife. The problem being that he had divorced her many years ago! He had to leave the office for 5 minutes to calm himself down. We advised him to contact the pension provider immediately to obtain a death benefit nomination form and nominate to which person/s he wanted to leave his pension fund. He did so.

Unfortunately, this is the type of problem we come across often.

In my experience many people do not make a death benefit nomination for their pensions. Even fewer get round to putting their pensions into trust!

A young client of mine recently benefited from a pension lump sum when his father died. The problem was that not only did he die intestate (without having made a will) but he also failed to make a death benefit nomination. He was unmarried but living with his partner at the time of death.

Tony Byrne
Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic

She has now appointed a solicitor and is threatening to take my client to court under The Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. At this stage we do not know what the outcome will be even though we feel our client has a very strong case.

Just think how much hassle, money and time could have been saved if his late father had simply made the death benefit nomination.

Even if you have made a death benefit nomination have you fully considered the consequences of it by taking advice first? You see many of our clients are married. They routinely leave 100% of their pensions to their surviving spouse. The problem with this approach is that it puts money into the widow/er's estate and increases their Inheritance Tax liability. In the vast majority of cases it is far better to put the pension into trust instead.

That way the survivor can still access the funds but the pension death benefits do not form part of their estate.

If you are approaching retirement and/or considering early retirement and need advice why not get in touch?

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To find out more why not come to a free retirement or wills and Inheritance Tax seminar at our Furzton Lake offices? As an alternative to a seminar we are also offering a free pensions and investments assessment worth £270 to the first 10 people who contact us before 23 May 2014. This is an "either or" offer. To find out if you qualify go to www.wealthandtax.co.uk/pension.

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Invader: Members of TFA and the 'FBI' with Reko Tao Zion

Reko campaign is up for award

A MYSTERIOUS campaign with an 'alien time traveller' that baffled the city last year has been nominated for a marketing award.

MK-based TFA was behind the 'Reko Tao Zion' initiative to increase student applications at Milton Keynes College.

And nine months on, the campaign has been named as a finalist in the prestigious Roses Creative Awards.

TFA director Darren Isaac said it was 'testament' to the work put in by the team.

Fluffy's owners are fined for noise 'hell'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A COUPLE who failed to control their noisy dog have been left thousands of pounds out of pocket.

David and Anne Evans appeared before Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court last Wednesday to contest eight breaches of a noise abatement order, issued under the Environmental Protection Act.

The court heard that enforcement officers from Milton Keynes Council's regulatory team issued a noise abatement notice on the pair in May last year, following complaints about their barking Yorkshire Terrier called Fluffy.

Officers heard recordings of the dog barking and also witnessed it in person during their investigation.

The pair, of Bradwell Road, Bradville, had denied eight breaches of the abatement notice between June and August last year, but a panel of magistrates found them guilty. Mr Evans was fined a total of £2,400 (£300 on each breach) and Mrs Evans was fined £600 (£75 on each breach).

The pair were ordered to pay the prosecution costs of £2,787.60.

A regulatory spokesperson said: "We all know that constant noise from uncontrolled barking dogs can make your life hell.

"On this occasion this couple were given the chance to control their dog but they blatantly failed to do so."

Art Class Starts Soon

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS TO IMPROVERS WILL LOVE THIS COURSE

GREAT NEWS for all our readers looking for something fun to do over the next few months! There is a 14 week part-time Art Class (3 hours a week, mornings or afternoons) starting soon in your area. Easy access by bus or free parking if you come by car.

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Spring Course
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Best wishes,
Jacqui

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LIMITED PLACES

To maintain a high standard to our classes and the tuition you will receive, classes are kept to small numbers – so places available are limited! We recommend that if you are interested, you call now.

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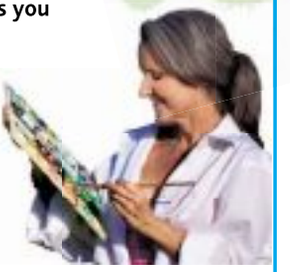

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St. Paul's Catholic School is a thriving Science College and Training School, committed to training and to the support and enhancement of science education and experience in Milton Keynes.

The course is aimed at those with no experience of being a science laboratory technician in a secondary school. Those with some experience may also apply.

Please write to Mr Clement Ikuyinminu (clement.ikuyinminu@st-pauls.org.uk) at the school explaining why you would like to attend this course. Places are limited. Closing date for applications is Friday 2nd May 2014.

Water is alive with the sound of music

Stepping up: Kaffe Matthews takes a well deserved rest from all that walking at Bridge 77 on the Grand Union Canal

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

AN artist has walked along the canals from London to Milton Keynes accompanied by her very own natural soundtrack.

From Thursday, April 10 to Wednesday, April 16 sound artist Kaffe Matthews travelled from her East London studio to Great Linford on foot.

Along the 80 mile walk she recorded sounds of the river and of its surroundings to inspire her new large-scale sonic artwork commissioned by Milton Keynes' International Festival (IF) and The Canal and River Trust.

Kaffe said: "It was really hard work but it was fabulous hearing all those sounds with my underwater microphones. The songs are really taking shape now."

The project is to be premiered from July 18-27 in a specially adapted sonic room in thecentre:mk. As part of this inspiring project which celebrates a huge part of our city's history, Kaffe is looking for people who want to sing The Lock Shift songs to create her sound track.

Professional singers, amateurs and those with absolutely no experience are all very welcome.

Kaffe is keen to assemble a choir that includes all voices - elderly, young, male, female, high, low and all those in between.

Interested performers are invited to Milton Keynes Arts Centre on Wednesday, May 7 and Thursday, May 15 from 6pm-8.30pm for vocal warm-ups and rehearsals.

Recordings will then take place on Saturday, May 17.

If you would like to take part, email jonny.paulhill@yahoo.co.uk and include a few words about yourself, your singing experience and the type of voice you have.

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Diversifying: Prodrive, which has a factory in Precedent Drive, Bradwell Common, supplies parts for Aston Martin Endurance Racing. Its chairman David Richards is pictured left

Blasting off to Mars

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

THE sky's the limit for a firm which will help supply parts for the Mars Rover in three years time.

For 10 years Prodrive has provided components for Aston Martin Racing, which compete in the FIA World Endurance Championship, with the first race meeting taking place at Silverstone this weekend.

But the firm, which is based in Banbury but builds its carbon fibre components at is factory in Precedent Drive, Bradwell Common, is now diversifying into other areas, including providing the parts for the Mars Rover.

"The composites company in Milton Keynes has grown from very small beginnings providing parts for our racing cars to now employing 180 people and building parts for road cars, aeroplanes and even the Mars Rover, so it's a very diverse business," said David Richards, chairman of Prodrive.

"The future of the composite business is further diversification to a whole range of other products."

The company has been around for 30 years but it has partnered Aston Martin Racing for the last decade.

Mr Richards says his highlight has been running the cars in the Le Mans 24-hour endurance race.

"Taking Aston Martin to Le Mans is always the highlight of the year," he added.

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Cop will stand trial over tip-off charges

BY JULIA SUTTON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A FORMER constable accused of trawling the Police National Computer to help a gang of alleged drug dealers is to stand trial next month.

It is claimed Martin McElvenna, 54, repeatedly accessed the database to provide tip-offs for a mob accused of importing Class A drugs into Britain.

Mr McElvenna, a former constable for Thames Valley Police, allegedly carried out a string of checks on co-defendant Vaughan Harrington.

It is also said he searched for personal information including his own vehicle.

The checks are said to have been made at Milton Keynes Police Station in September last year.

Mr McElvenna was dismissed by the Force following a misconduct hearing.

He appeared in the dock alongside eight co-defendants at Southwark Crown Court last Wednesday.

He has been charged with four counts of misconduct in a public office but did not enter any formal pleas. Judge Peter Testar ordered all nine men to stand trial on May 27.

Mr McElvenna, of Grange Park, Northampton, has been remanded on bail.

Winner: Poppy Spinks, right, with one of her bold designs

Poppy's making a splash

A STUDENT could soon see her designs sold with major high street retailers after winning a competition with lingerie brand Lepel.

Poppy Spinks, 19, from Caldecotte, will now work with the team to put her designs into production having beaten off competition from 19 other students at De Montford University (DMU).

Lepel organised a project for students in their second year of DMU's Contour Fashion course to design a swimwear collection.

Poppy's prize also includes an internship with the company and £500.

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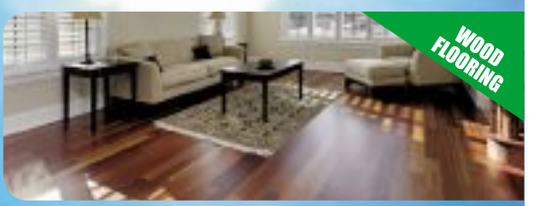

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Deaths

WOODS
Thomas
(Overhead British Rail)

Passed away suddenly in his sleep on 12th April 2014, aged 70 years.
He is sadly missed by his wife, son and daughter and their partners, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will take place on Friday 9th May at 2pm in the Oak Chapel, Crownhill Crematorium.

Family flowers only please but donations if desired are for Bletchley Park.

Enquiries care of
H.W. Mason & Sons,
97 Victoria Road, Bletchley, MK2 2PD.
Telephone 01908 642700.

RUSSELL
William David

Of Olney, formerly of Newport Pagnell, passed away in Milton Keynes hospital on the 16th April 2014 aged 82 years.
He was a dearly loved husband of the late Betty, father of Lynn, Jenny and Sharon, father in law of Richard, Robert and Paul, grandad to his 7 grandchildren and grandad Bill to 6 great grandchildren; he will be very sadly missed by all his family and friends but reunited with his beloved wife Betty.

Funeral Service take place at St Peter & St. Paul Church, Newport Pagnell on Thursday 1st May at 11.30am.

Family flowers only but donations if desired for Willen Hospice may be sent to H. W. Mason & Sons, 9 High Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 8AR, Tel.(01908) 611112

HAYNES
Geraldine Anne
(Formerly Faulkner)

Passed away on 7th April 2014 at Willen Hospice. Beloved Wife, Mother, Nan, Sister and Friend to many. She will be forever in our hearts.

Funeral service will take place at the Oak Chapel, Crownhill Crematorium on Tuesday 29th April at 1.15pm.
Donations rather than flowers to Willen Hospice would be gratefully accepted c/o Finch & Sons Family Funeral Service 231 Queensway, Bletchley, MK2 2EH Tel. 01908 367777

REVELEY
Rev'd Val

The service of thanksgiving to God for the life of The Revd Val Reveley, beloved Mother, Grandma, friend and Priest, will take place at 10.30am on Tuesday 29th April at her Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney.

You are invited to join the congregation as we remember her with joy and commend her to Gods keeping.

Any donations to Val's requested Charities: Olney-Newton Link and Advantage Africa, may be sent to:
H.W.Mason & Sons,
9 High Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 8AR.

Cherish their memory...

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Deaths

GARRETT
Dennis

Passed away on the 11th April 2014 aged 86 years.
Beloved husband, dad, grandad and great-grandad.
The funeral service will take place on Monday 28th April at 2.45pm at Oak Chapel, Crownhill Crematorium.
Flowers are welcome.

Finch & Sons Family Funeral Service
231 Queensway, Bletchley, MK2 2EH.
Tel: 01908 367777

HOPKINS
Sylvia

passed away peacefully on 15th April 2014 aged 73 years. She is sadly missed by all her family and friends.

The funeral service will take place on Wednesday 30th April at 2pm in the Oak Chapel, Crownhill Crematorium.

Flowers or donations if desired are for Barchester Health Care Ashby House Residents Fund.

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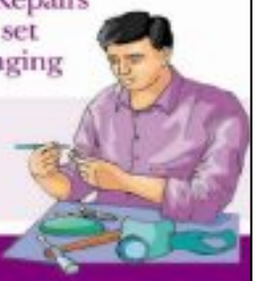

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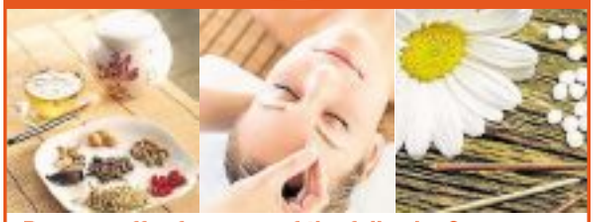

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Digging in: Doris and Bernard Soul with Brian White as the last tree is planted in the 60 acre wood

Planting rural roots

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

MILTON Keynes mayor Brian White is keen to make sure that rural areas are not forgotten.

MK is one of the fastest growing cities in Europe, with several developments on the go, but Cllr White wants to give rural areas just as much of a focus as urban ones.

He was speaking after planting the last tree of a 60 acre area of woodland at Ekeney House which began as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012.

"Trees are an important part of the urban area but in the rural places, they are just as important," said Cllr White.

"We mustn't forget the rural part of the borough and it's really important that projects like this happen."

A variety of trees have been planted, including ash, oak, wild cherry and field maple.

The land at Ekeney Wood is owned by Bernard Soul and his family and he said that the wood will provide a great legacy for the area.

Emma Mayo, woodland creation advisor at the Woodland Trust, which helped provide the seeds, said other people and businesses in the city could go on the charity's website if they wished to plant trees.

"Woods are great for wildlife and biodiversity," she said.

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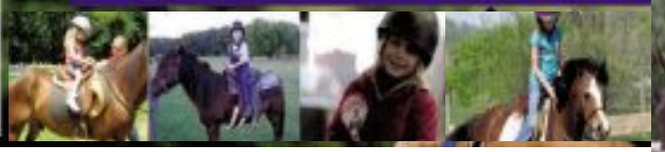

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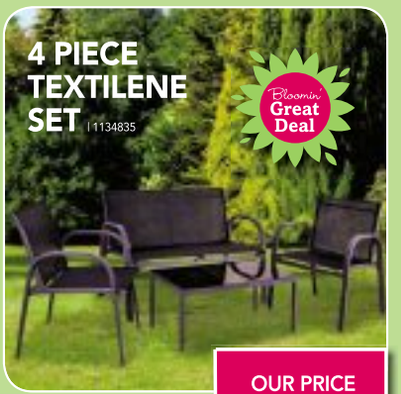

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Spring is here and it is time to get stuck into some of those projects you have been putting off during the winter months.

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You probably have a to-do list as long as your arm so where do you start?

Well you can start right here with a browse through our *Spring Is In The Air* supplement.

If you fancy a change but you're not sure what, the businesses and traders we have assembled in these pages have plenty of expertise.

Whether you are looking for a dramatic transformation or something smaller to tweak the current look and feel of your home you are in the right place.

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My Wonderful Kitchen

They say that the kitchen is the heart of any home and that what goes on in that room is more important than how it looks, including the décor, colours of walls and the space provided.

I know that for most of us there are standard elements throughout our kitchens that are unchanging – the decoration, the window hangings and our items on display.

If you are lucky enough to have a large kitchen which can encompass a table and chairs, then everything can happen in this room. To eat your meals with your family and friends means that mealtimes are a chance to talk – an opportunity to discuss your day and catch up, even if this time starts as a snippet of conversation.

It would be marvellous if we had the finances available to create our very own dream kitchen. From measuring the room and deciding the kitchen layout, to choosing the right interior fittings, lighting and appliances. To create the look of your dream kitchen by combining fronts, worktops, appliances, knobs and handles could leave you feeling a little bemused about what to do first.

Remember that an essential part of the planning process, is accurate measuring which helps ensure that your new kitchen will fit and function properly, but remember to take into account the following tips of preparing for the planning…..

Place your oven at a safe and convenient height

Place the oven and microwave at a height that makes it easy to see the interior and convenient to take hot dishes out.

Hob guard – prevents accidents by the cooking unit

Mount hob- and topple-guards. They are adjustable in width and can be adapted to the size of your cooking unit.

Corner bumpers

Reduces the risk of your little ones getting hurt by sharp edges.

Drawer catches or locks

Keep dangerous liquids, knives or detergents out of children's reach.

Anti-slip underlay

Keeps the rug in place and reduces the risk of slipping.

Door stop

Children getting their fingers caught in doors is something you definitely want to avoid. A door stop keeps the door open and your worries at a safe distance.

Have a step stool nearby

They are handy for reaching high shelves or for letting children be part of the action.

With its enviable moniker as the heart of every home, the kitchen's vital role is well documented. As far back as Ancient Greece, so long as people had the money their house would include a separate room to be used as a kitchen. Others would share communal style kitchens, often outside, until advances in water, electricity and gas supplies saw the kitchen begin to make its permanent move inside for most people in the west.

Fast forward through hundreds of years of advances and inventions and today the kitchen is the pride and joy of many homes. Gadgets and appliances abound but a constant in most kitchens since the early twentieth century is the work surface, a key component when planning or refitting any kitchen which can instantly transform a space and not necessarily break the bank. Personal preference dictates the colour and style but specific materials are seen as best for both their resilience and their aesthetics. Some metals are commonly used in kitchens, especially basins but often work surfaces too. Solid wood remains popular as do the ever-present marble and granite. Further improvements in production techniques has also seen laminate options increase in popularity recently.

A quick internet search for kitchen surfaces today brings page after page of marble and granite. These two tough but beautiful materials, don't tend to come especially cheap but they do come with anything up to 15 years of stain-free, chip-free guarantees alongside their natural, shiny and smooth appearance and a resistance second to none when it comes to heat and impact. B&Q have bucked the price trend by bringing out one of the most purse-friendly granite options so far with their 'Speedstone' worktop. Marble and granite tend to be cut to size from larger slabs so can provide a versatile option for odd-shaped corners and otherwise difficult dimensions.

Often a cheaper option than granite, marble offers all the same smooth good looks and choice of colours, as well as being similarly adaptable to be trimmed to fit any kitchen size and shape. Homebase has a standard range of kitchen marble worktops in traditional cream alongside stylish options for kitchen accessories with prices starting as low as £33.49. Always bang on trend, Ikea comes out top for laminates with its impressive range or colours, materials and styles. Relatively Oak and Birch woods can both be treated to increase their endurance in the kitchen whilst cheaper laminates can be purchased for as little as £20.

1 Cooke & Lewis Carisbrook Country Kitchen
B&Q

2 Stainless Egg Timer
£6.50, John Lewis

3 Storage Jars
from £10-£15, Debenhams

4 JL Skyline Kitchen Range
John Lewis

5 Cookware Kitchen Oak Carving Board
£25, Sainsbury's

6 Leighton Grey Kitchen Range
Magnet

7 Walnut Shaker Style Kitchen
B&Q

8 Tefal Toast & Egg
£45, Woolworths.co.uk

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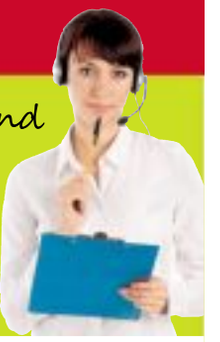

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Growing Healthy with Herbs

Adding flavour to your cooking; adding interest to your gardening, growing your own fresh herbs is a delight - and they're not that hard to cultivate.

Most herbs can be grown outside in pots or windowboxes. They look good, smell good and do you good and they can transform a meal into a feast. Anyone, with just the smallest space, can grow them.

Many herb seeds are better sown direct into the garden or a deep container, as herbs hate being transplanted. It causes them to bolt and run to flower, missing out the leaf stage; coriander, dill and salad rocket are classic examples of this.

And don't try to nurture a supermarket buy - you'll be lucky if it lasts a week.

The success of a herb garden is all in the planning. Think about the shape and aspect of the site: is it north or south facing, do you have light and sandy soil that dries out in summer or heavy clay that holds too much water in winter?

Drought-loving Mediterranean herbs, such as sage, rosemary and thyme, prefer a dry, sunny situation and will grow happily in a windowbox.

Other herbs, such as angelica, chervil and parsley, thrive best in rich, moist soil and partial shade.

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Consider the size, structure and flowering potential of each plant - tall shrub herbs such as bay and myrtle can be positioned near a wall or towards the back of a border, in a bed or pot (potted herbs should be in a good loam-based compost).

They will tolerate some shade but, as Paul Daniels says, not a lot.

The vibrant red of bergamot, which enjoys a light soil, and the bright blue of borage, which can go in any soil, can be used as accents throughout the garden, and little treasures, such as the Cretan oregano with its hairy leaves and stunning flowers, should be at the front of the garden in a very light soil, or as a feature in a pot (with a mix of compost and horticultural grit).

Most herbs can be grown in containers or windowboxes, but not all: those with a deep taproot, such as horseradish, or those which grow particularly tall, such as chicory, are better in the garden with rich, moist soil.

Water your herbs regularly in the evening. Exceptions to this rule are plants such as lemon grass and curry leaf that have been imported from warmer climes. They hate our fluctuating temperatures - warm in the day but cold at night. Water them in the morning so they go to bed dry. Seeds should be sown in spring or early summer on the whole, though some, such as mustard, sorrel and rocket, make for a lovely autumn crop.

All herbs can be grown outside, but you'll need to bring them in for winter. They don't like the frost.

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online read more and see extra pictures at **mkweb.co.uk**

Waking up with some Black Coffee

ONE of the country's most recognisable actors is to star as one of fiction's greatest characters in the new Agatha Christie production coming to Milton Keynes Theatre.

The Agatha Christie Theatre Company has announced that Robert Powell - star of the 1977 film Jesus of Nazareth - is to star as Hercule Poirot in a new production of her first ever play Black Coffee.

The diminutive Belgian detective is set to get "the little grey cells" working in the latest production from the celebrated crime collective as it arrives at Milton Keynes Theatre from April 28 to May 3.

A quintessential English country estate is thrown into chaos following the murder of eccentric inventor Sir Claud Amory and the theft of his new earth shattering formula.

Arriving at the estate just moments too late, one man immediately senses a potent brew of despair, treachery and deception amid the occupants. That man is Hercule Poirot.

The Belgian investigator is the only fictitious character to receive a front-page obituary in the New York Times.

To see Black Coffee in MK, call the box office on 0844 871 7652 or visit www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes.

Tickets cost between £15 and £35.

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seasonalstyle

THIS weekend thecentre:mk is showcasing the latest fashions set to hit stores this season.

Middleton Hall will be transformed into the Spring Theatre of Fashion.

There will be a runway and models featuring stunning catwalk looks from retailers within thecentre:mk.

As well as being able to follow the latest trends there will be demonstrations and workshops, featuring thecentre:mk's biggest brands.

The event is free and open Saturday 9am-7pm and Sunday 11am-5pm.

Catwalks are held five or six times throughout the day.

modelminiatures

MODELKRAFT returns this year with tons of different models to have a look at.

Stantonbury Leisure Centre will be magically transformed into a fairy-land of unbelievable scale miniatures.

You can see hundreds, if not thousands, of aircraft of all periods from the birth of aviation to science fiction, cars of all types, tanks and battle re-enactments from medieval to ultra modern, as well as ships of every era, figures and tableau of every kind.

Run by MK Scale Model Club, it takes place from 10am-4pm on Sunday.

Entry is £5 for adults and £3 for senior citizens, while under 16s are free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Luke Nixon is an area landscape manager for The Parks Trust. In this column for MK LIFE, he talks about caring for some of the city's most popular parks.

I AM one of two area managers and care for the parks in the north and north-east of Milton Keynes, including Campbell Park and Willen Lake.

When I was younger I used to enjoy watching Geoff Hamilton on Gardeners' World.

His knowledge and hands-on approach inspired me to start a career in horticulture and study at Writtle College.

I love the diversity of work, being outside, working with people and being part of a team trying to nurture a landscape for generations to enjoy.

I feel proud to work for The Parks Trust and like to see people enjoying and appreciating our parks.

I enjoy taking the family for walks in our woodland and park areas and would love to see more people discovering the variety of parks in Milton Keynes such as Linford Wood's tree carvings or the Cathedral of Trees - which will host the International Festival this coming summer.

The most challenging part of my job is trying to balance the needs of a whole host of people with the needs of a healthy landscape and wildlife.

Seasonal weather changes and habitat protection often means that we have tight timescales to complete our work.

Our intensive period of working on trees and shrubs is now finished for winter and I really enjoy working in spring and seeing our parks begin to burst into life!

MKlife MK Gallery Competitions Comedy

edwardjames

MELANIE Smith's film Xilitla is on view in the Cube Gallery on the first floor video space.

The 55 minute story, which is free, explores the ruins of the surreal architectural follies at Las Pozas, constructed by Edward James.

It also follows his story from Sussex, to Xilitla.

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How big is the swimming pool at Whittlebury Hall?

A) 10 metres B) 19 metres
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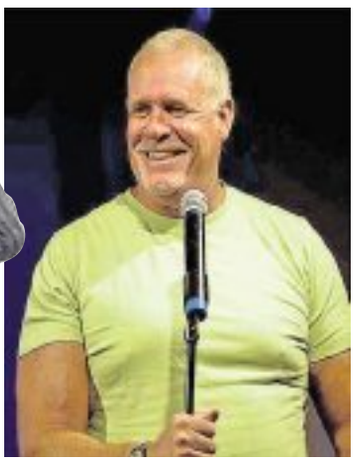
Send your answer, name, address and daytime telephone number to competitions@mk-news.co.uk, or MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by noon on Wednesday, April 30. The editor's decision is final



aussiehumour

AUSTRALIAN comedian Colin Cole headlines the Woughton Comedy Club on May 2.

The 6ft 7 comedian, **above**, is not just one of the biggest acts in his country for his height - he has featured on all manner of Australian television shows.

Joey Page, **left**, is the opening comedian and Bryan Lacey hosts proceedings.

Tickets for the event at Woughton Leisure Centre cost £12 or £10 for members.

Doors open at 7pm for an 8.30pm start and to book, call the box office on 01908 660392.

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MKlife The Stables Family Life Night In

kyleeastwood

FOLLOWING a triumphant appearance at The Stables last year, Kyle Eastwood and his band return to the venue.

The son of the Hollywood legend Clint, Kyle is a universally respected musician and leader in his own right.

A virtuoso bassist on electric and upright as well as a talented composer with a keen ear for great tunes, he is right at the forefront of the contemporary scene, having chosen to immerse himself in the music he loves.

Kyle and his band play at The Stables at 8pm on Monday.

Tickets cost £19.50 from www.stables.org or 280800.

recyclingfun

REVIVIE is a free, fun filled family festival this Saturday with lots of activities and live music celebrating regeneration, renewal and recycling.

With live music from acts like The Junk Orchestra, Inter-Action MK'S event at the Old Rectory in Peartree Bridge, will be enjoyed by all. The free event is from 11am-5pm.

got an event?
email james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

for more leisure news visit www.mkweb.co.uk

goodgame

GAME of Thrones is back for a fourth series, and I am so happy about this, writes Scott Kirk.

It is quite simply the best thing on the box right now, so I'm delighted it has been renewed for another couple of series already.

Everything to do with the show is genius. The acting is flawless, the plot twists and turns like a rollercoaster, and there are so many cliffhanger endings it hurts.

The character development is also astounding and it's amazing how well George R R Martin knows his characters.

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

reggaenight

ENJOY some Reggaelicious fun at one of Wilton Hall's theme nights.

Hear Baby Come Back, Is This Love, Mysterious Girl, Red Red Wine and many, many more. A special offer is currently available of £18 per person for the night on May 2 at 7pm. Call 01908 372277.

oilpainting

IT'S never too late to get into art - and Stani Studios in Stony Stratford aim to prove it.

Tomorrow, from 10am-4pm, Caron Higgins' workshop will introduce you to oil paintings.

To book tickets, which cost £60, visit www.art-and-craft-workshops-milton-keynes.co.uk.

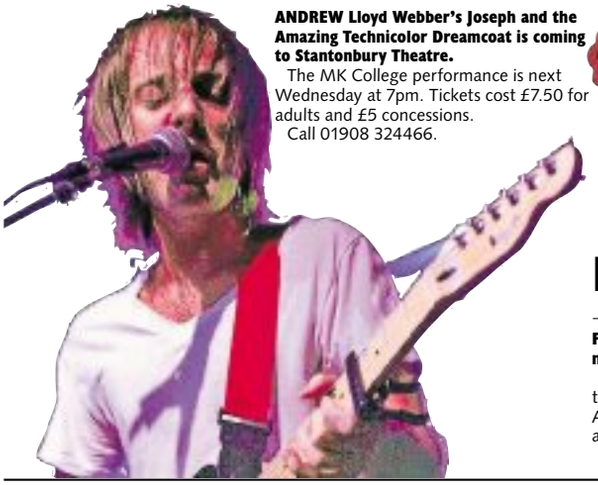
messymadness

KIDS Club at thecentre:mk is celebrating Earth Day with lots of green finger activities.

From 10am till 4pm children can decorate and plant a flower pot with cress seeds to make a 'crop top' windowsill display.

The free messy madness is taking place on Saturday outside Next.

joseph'sstory



ANDREW Lloyd Webber's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is coming to Stantonbury Theatre.

The MK College performance is next Wednesday at 7pm. Tickets cost £7.50 for adults and £5 concessions.

Call 01908 324466.

birthdaysuit

FORMER Idlewild star Rod Jones is bringing his new band The Birthday Suit to Wolverton.

The Indie rock outfit recently released their third album and are playing at The Craufurd Arms tonight at 7pm. Tickets cost £6 in advance at www.thecraufurdarms.com.

peppaplays

THIS Saturday, Mead Open Farm is expecting a visit from a very special pig.

Children's TV favourite Peppa Pig will be greeting all her other friends at the farm and having fun with all the on-site activities.

Tickets for a day at the farm, near Leighton Buzzard, cost around £10 for adults and children but discounted prices can be found online at www.meadopenfarm.co.uk.

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mkweb.co.uk/property

MKNEWS

PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Eversholt

THIS five bedroom detached period home has been subject to substantial extension and refurbishment during the past year by the current owners.

The south facing property is situated in a quiet and sought after rural location with far reaching countryside views on a good size plot. Eversholt is a desirable village with a highly regarded primary school and good access to major roads and railway lines.

The accommodation comprises reception hall, study, snug, play room, large open plan living space incorporating sitting room, dining room and bespoke kitchen, utility room and cloakroom.

There are also five bedrooms, with an en-suite dressing room and shower room to the master, guest en-suite to bedroom two, a family bathroom, laundry cupboard, garage and off road parking. Other benefits include new plumbing and electrics throughout and double glazing.

The property is on the market for £875,000.

Full details are available on www.beasley-partners.co.uk. For viewings, call Beasley & Partners on 01908 282820.

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ESTATE AGENTS
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CORNER PLOT

BRAND NEW RELEASE £365,000

UNIQUE PROPERTY IN THIS PHASE
4 Bedroom detached property
Entrance hall with downstairs cloakroom
Kitchen/breakfast room with french doors to garden
Downstairs famiy/dining room with french doors to garden
First floor formal sitting room

Call: 01908 677227

CALL TO VIEW

POPULAR HOUSE TYPE £375,000

- **BALCONY OFF LIVING ROOM**
- 5 Bedroom detached new home
- Kitch/b/fast room with double doors to garden,
- 5th bedroom ideal study,
- Garage & parking space.
- SHOWHOME OPEN THURSDAY TO MONDAY

Call: 01908 677227

FIVE BEDROOMS

ROOF TOP CONSERVATORY £390,000

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO BUY ON THIS PHASE
5 Bedroom detached property
Large size kitchen/breakfast room with french doors
2 further separate reception rooms
En suite to master
Detached Garage and driveway

Call: 01908 677227

CALL TO VIEW

TOP FLOOR MASTER SUITE £290,000

- **SHOW HOME OF THIS TYPE TO VIEW**
- 4 Bedroom well designed new home
- 17' kitchen with separate utility
- Top floor dedicated to master suite
- Carport with parking
- Close to station with access to Euston in an hour

Call: 01908 677227

CALL TO VIEW

SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME £365,000

1567 SQ FT of versatile living space
25' Kitchen/Dining area opening onto garden
Seperate lounge with double doors to dining room
Study and downstairs cloakroom
All bedrooms are doubles
En suite to Bedrom 2
Top floor dedicated to master suite with dressing room
Driveway for 2 cars leading to carport
Set in peaceful countryside overlooking a brooke
Close to MK, Newton Longville and Stoke Hammond

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BUY THIS PROPERTY WITH AS LITTLE AS 5% DEPOSIT

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MUST VIEW

PRICES FROM £145,000

GREAT FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS
Six apartments over three floors overlooking lake.
Ground floor apartments have own front door.
Open Plan Kitchen/lounge/Diner
Great links south to London and short drive from CentreMK
HELP TO BUY AVAILABLE

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PRICES START FROM £189,000

SIX MODERN TWO BEDROOMS APARTMENTS WITH EN SUITE
GROUND FLOOR apartments have own entrance
Open plan Kitchen/Living/Dining with double doors leading to Juliet Balcony
Kitchen with integrated fridge/freezer and washing machine

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COMING SOON

BRAND NEW RELEASES £200,000

THREE SOLD ALREADY!!
Two bedroom houses ready June 2014
920 sq ft of accommodation
Kitchen/diner with separate lounge
Integrated washing machine and f/freezer
Flooring of tiles to wet areas and carpet throughout

Call: 01908 677227

NEW PRICE

VILLAGE LOCATION £575,000

High specification 4 bed Detached Property
Large kitchen diner with integrated appliances and granite
Ground Floor underfloor heating with electric mood lighting
Separate living room with doors to Fully landscaped garden
En suite to Master and bedroom 2
Short drive to CENTREMK and XSCAPE

Call: 01908 677227

STUNNING LOCATION

EMERSON FARM £520,000

Brook Barn is a delightful four bedroom barn style courtyard home. This home has many character features and contemporary styling offering flexible accommodation. On the ground floor the sitting room has an open fireplace with wood burning stove and feature oak lintel. The sitting room also benefits from dual aspect hardwood screen and patio doors providing natural light and space. The kitchen with patio doors provides direct access to the enclosed rear garden and patio area. There is a further reception room on the ground floor together with guest en-suite. On the first floor there is a master bedroom en-suite, two further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Call: 01908 677227

DOUBLE GARAGE

EMERSON FARM £825,000

Birch House is a substantial five bedroom detached home occupying a good sized plot within this exclusive development. The sitting room has an open fireplace with wood burning stove and feature oak lintel with patio doors leading to the rear of the property. The large family room also has patio doors. The Siematic kitchen has been individually designed to create a practical and focal point to this home. There is a further reception room, utility and cloakroom. The first floor has a master bedroom en-suite, four further bedrooms, two of which are en-suite and a family bathroom.An integral double garage with electrically operated doors offering parking for three cars.

Call: 01908 677227

www.taylorsestateagents.co.uk
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propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk The Property Ombudsman OFT Approved code

inspired Sales & Lettings

Phone - 01908 690 700
Email - info@inspiredagents.co.uk
Web - www.inspiredagents.co.uk

This four bedroom detached would make a great family home. Situated in the old town of Newport Pagnell with just a short drive to Central Milton Keynes this house is a great find and the accommodation makes it perfect for family living.

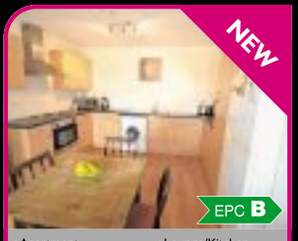
Newport Pagnell £340,000

An ideal family home which benefits from many improvements by the current owners. There is a large extension to the rear giving you a fabulous refitted kitchen/diner which must be seen to fully appreciate and a bathroom suite refitted to a very high standard.

Bletchley £232,500

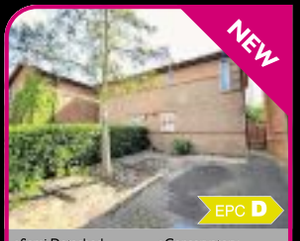
Situated just a stones throw from Lodge Lake is this exceptional four bedroom detached house. The property is offered for sale to a high standard throughout with great accommodation to meet the needs of a growing family.

Great Holm £450,000



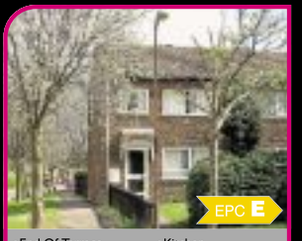
- Apartment
- 25% Share
- 2 Bedrooms
- En-Suite To Master
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Secure Entry
- Central Location

Bletchley £30,000



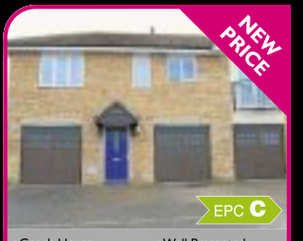
- Semi Detached
- 2 Bedrooms
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Conservatory
- Bathroom
- Garden
- Off Road Parking

Shenley Lodge OIEO £145,000



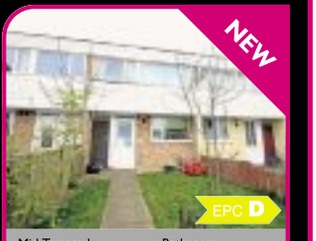
- End Of Terrace
- Good Size Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Modernization Required

Eaglestone £169,950



- Coach House
- No Above Chain
- 2 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Well Presented
- Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Bathroom

Broughton OIEO £170,000



- Mid Terraced
- Kitchen/Diner
- Lounge
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- Double Glazed
- No Above Chain

Bletchley £125,000

One Bedroom Apartment - Inspired Sales and Lettings urgently require similar properties due to the high demand we are experiencing. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700

Bletchley pcm £695

Lake land, the River Ouse and the picturesque Ouse Valley Park all on your doorstep so viewing of this ground floor two bedroom apartment with en-suite to the master and kitchen with appliances. FEES APPLY.

New Bradwell PCM £750

Two Bedroom Detached - Inspired Sales and Lettings urgently require similar properties due to the high demand we are experiencing. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700

Emerson Valley PCM £850

A well presented first floor, two double bedroom apartment, in the sought after and ever popular location of Broughton, east of Milton Keynes.The property has open plan living and secure parking. FEES APPLY.

Broughton pcm £795

Three Bedroom Detached - Inspired Sales and Lettings urgently require similar properties due to the high demand we are experiencing. If you have a similar property please contact us today on 01908 690700

Racecourse pcm £1,150

Situated in a village locationis this much improved three/four bedroom semi detached house. Benefiting from three reception rooms, recently refitted kitchen and bathroom. Offered on an unfurnished basis. FEES APPLY

Cranfield pcm £995

This immaculate four/five bedroom, semi detached home in the new development of Newton Leys benefiting; cloakroom, kitchen/diner with built-in appliances and under floor heating lounge, master bedroom with dressing area and en-suite, FEES APPLY

Newton Leys pcm £1,395

Inspired Sales and Lettings are delighted to offer this 1960`s four bedroom detached home with panoramic views, situated amidst countryside in the village of Winslow, south of Milton Keynes.The property is available NOW. FEES APPLY.

Winslow PCM £1,400

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Advertisement Feature

What should you pay an Estate Agent to sell your property?

Why does **Local Estate Agent** only charge 0.5%?

Local Estate Agent is an independent, family run business launched 4 years ago in Cambridgeshire. Founder Donna Hewitt had worked for traditional high street estate agents for over 20 years and realised that many of the running costs and commissions (passed on to vendors) were unnecessary. The vast majority of people buying property now search online using websites such as Rightmove, so Donna created **Local Estate Agent** to provide all the services needed to sell property but at a fraction of the cost. The concept allows an agent to work from a home-office environment using the latest technology and techniques to provide a local, professional, dedicated and more personal service. Each agent has a limit on the number of properties being managed at any one time and allows customers to have contact with their dedicated agent from 9am till 10pm 7 days a week.

The result… Lower estate agent fees but no compromise on service!!!

The services offer by **Local Estate Agent** have been successfully tried and tested. Vendors in Milton Keynes can now take advantage of this bright and fresh approach to estate agency with confidence. Also, with options that include no upfront payments and nothing to pay until completion of sale… What have you got to lose?

Call **Local Estate Agent** today for a FREE Valuation

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Now in MK

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Local Estate Agent is an independent family run company led by professionals with over 20 years experience in the industry. We have seen the changes in how buyers search for property and with established websites such as Rightmove, buyers go online then call the agent to arrange a viewing.
We now offer the same type of services as a traditional high street agent, but without all of the 'overhead costs and commissions'.

CALL TODAY AND SAVE £1,000's

Estate agent fee comparison

Sale Price	Typical 1.5% fee inc. VAT	Our Fee based on our 0.5% option
£100,000	£1,800	£999
£200,000	£3,600	£1,000
£300,000	£5,400	£1,500
£400,000	£7,200	£2,000
£500,000	£9,000	£2,500

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Property to let

WOBURN SANDS £925pcm

A brand new three bedroom end of terrace property with cloakroom and off road parking. Popular location. Unfurnished. Available 04/05.

WOBURN SANDS £1,995pcm

A four bedroom detached house on the outskirts of Woburn Sands, benefiting from two en suite bathrooms, double garage and parking. Unfurnished. Available 22/05.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY £3,500pcm

An executive five bedroom property benefiting from private gated access, large Dutch barn and large gardens. Flex Furn. Available early May.

WOBURN £3,042pcm

A rare opportunity to occupy a four bedroom property with a self contained annexe located in a rural location. Unfurnished. Min 12 month contract.

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A brand new 1st floor two bedroom apartment with en suite, parking and lake view from lounge. Unfurnished. Available Now.

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A two bedroom ground floor flat located in The Square, Aspley Guise. Unfurnished. Available at 2 weeks notice.

WOBURN SANDS £615pcm

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BOW BRICKHILL £1,200pcm

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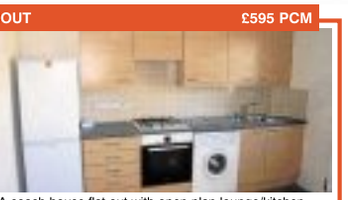
OLD STRATFORD - JUST REDECORATED THROUGHOUT £595 PCM



A coach house flat out with open plan lounge/kitchen (with appliances), double bedroom, shower room and parking. Offered UNFURNISHED and available from 22nd April. MUST BE VIEWED! Additional fees apply.

OLDBROOK - CLOSE TO CMK & THE STATION £950 PCM

An UNFURNISHED semi detached home with kitchen/breakfast room, lounge/diner, conservatory, THREE BEDROOMS (master with en suite), bathroom, garage, gardens and parking. Additional fees apply.

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The Property Ombudsman LETTINGS

Be part of the UK's largest Open House Event this May with Taylors Estate Agents in Milton Keynes

Taylors Estate Agents in Milton Keynes is holding an Open House event on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th May to help more people to move home.

"With the property market gaining momentum, interest in selling and buying is the strongest it has been for some years. With the added incentive of an Open House Weekend, the prospect for homeowners to sell their properties couldn't be better.

Whether you are looking to buy your first home, cash-in on a buy-to-let investment or move up the property ladder now is a good time to capitalise on the buoyant market conditions," says George Burden, Regional Manager of Taylors Estate Agents.

The team at Milton Keynes will join more than 1,300 branches throughout the UK in this national 'Open House Weekend' campaign. For vendors, the Open House event is supported by a nationwide campaign and featured properties will benefit from enhanced exposure, increased buyer interest and multiple viewings. For buyers, the event presents a good opportunity to move fast, secure multiple viewings, and compare and contrast properties over just two days.

In addition to the Open House Weekend, Taylors will also be promoting the Government's Help to Buy scheme, which is assisting more first-time buyers and home movers to get on or move up the property ladder.

George Burden Regional Manager commented: "The Open House Weekend is an ideal opportunity for sellers and landlords to promote their property and attract lots of viewings from interested buyers. Last year's Open House event held in May featured 11,500 properties, generating more than 24,500 viewings and resulting in more than 2,700 sales. We are confident that this year's event will exceed last year's success. We are keen to showcase as many properties as we possibly can to ensure we help match the right buyer to the right property."

Be part of the UK's largest Open House Weekend.

Contact the Milton Keynes Branch on 01908 678151 or visit any of the 8 local branches across Milton Keynes.

For a full list of all the properties participating in the 'Open House Weekend event', log on to www.propertywide.co.uk

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PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Development proposals for land at Linford Lakes, Milton Keynes

- The Marle Inn, Great Linford Lakes, Wolverton Road, Great Linford, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK14 5AH
- Wednesday 30th April 2pm - 8pm
- All are welcome to attend

A public exhibition is being held by Barratt Northampton, who are consulting on development proposals for residential development at Great Linford Lakes. Members of the project team will be available to answer any questions you may have.

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HISTORY TEACHER

Required for September, 2014

We wish to appoint a dynamic, enthusiastic History Teacher to join a thriving department that achieves excellent examination results. 'A' Level work will also be available to suitably qualified candidates. Applications from NQTs will be welcome and a TLR may be available for an experienced teacher who is keen to take on an area of responsibility within the history department.

A laptop computer will be loaned to the successful candidate.

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT

Required for September, 2014

(Fixed term to August 2015 in the first instance)
Level 2
Point 10 - 16 (depending on experience)
£14,013 - £16,604 pro rata
Actual salary range will be
£9,356 - £11,086

Term Time Only
(28.75 hours per week)

A Learning Support Assistant is required for September. The successful applicant will work alongside the teaching staff in supporting students in lessons or on a one to one basis when students are withdrawn from lessons.

All offers of employment are "conditional" until Disclosure and Barring checks have been completed, qualification checks and satisfactory references have been received.

Please telephone Lou Ellis (Principal's P.A.) at the school for further details and an application form; the information for both positions is also on our website www.redborne.com

The successful applicants will be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring check.

Redborne is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Closing Date for both positions:
Wednesday 7th May, 2014

Redborne is a successful school that achieves excellent examination results, with 97% of students gaining 5A* - C grades at GCSE (typically over 70% including Maths and English). 'A' Level results are also very good with 61% of passes at 'A*', 'A' or 'B' grades and an overall pass rate of 99%. About 80% of the Sixth Form go on to university and this year eight students have had Oxbridge offers. The school is well regarded and popular, situated in a very pleasant area of Central Bedfordshire, within easy reach of London. The school's most recent OFSTED report was excellent and we were graded as "outstanding". Redborne is also a National College Leadership Development School and a Leading Edge School.

©LW

Teaching Vacancy

Senior Early Years Teacher/Lead Professional (QTS essential) required

Permanent full - time position. MPS/UPS with TLR 2a (£2,561)

Start date: 1st September 2014

We are looking for an outstanding and dynamic qualified Early Years Teacher to join our experienced, enthusiastic and supportive team. You must be able to demonstrate your commitment to a child-centered, play based approach to high quality teaching and learning and be confident to work in close partnership as a key person with the children, families and wider school community.
This is an exciting and unique opportunity to be at the heart of the development of a bespoke leadership role within our Nursery School. Primary focus of this new post will be to ensure that our learning environment provides our children with an outstanding Early Years Education.

Application packs are available from the School.
Please note that these will be available from 22nd April.
Visits are strongly recommended and you are warmly invited to make an appointment.

Closing Date: Thursday 8th May 4.00pm

Interviews: Friday 16th May

Knowles Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and all references will be followed up prior to interview.
We are an equal opportunities employer.

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General Vacancies

SCHOOL DIRECT INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING (ITT)

REDBORNE UPPER SCHOOL

This exciting school based programme of Initial Teacher Training is available from September, 2014. Places are available to new trainees at our Lead School of Redborne Upper as well as our partner schools across Central Bedfordshire including Stratton Upper, All Saints Academy, Cedars Upper, Harlington Upper, Queensbury Academy and Vandyke Upper. Training places are available in the following subjects:

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Computer Science

Candidates will need to pay a course fee of £9,000 but may be eligible for bursaries and loans, details available on the DfE website.

Successful trainees will be awarded Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and a PGCE from our training provider, which is the University of Bedfordshire. We welcome applicants who have UK residency, GCSE Mathematics and English (or equivalent) at Grade C or above, and a degree - preferably First Class, Upper Second or Lower Second - in the subject in which the candidate wishes to train to teach, or a closely-related subject.

Keen on applying but need some more experience?

Come and meet the team at our 'Taster Morning' where you will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the work of a teacher and get a real flavour of the school environment. Our 'Taster Morning' will be Tuesday 6th May, 2014, hosted at Redborne Upper School, Ampthill. You will undertake a learning walk observing outstanding teachers at work, meet class teachers and current trainees. To book your place on the 'Taster Morning', please contact Jon Gunn on 01525 842608 or stjgunn@redborne.beds.sch.uk

Further details for any of the above training places can be found on the Redborne Upper School website (www.redborne.com) as well as the websites of our partner schools. Applications must be made online at the following address and applicants must select Redborne Upper School and Community College (1R7) as the training provider http://www.ucas.com/apply/teacher-training

All offers of a place are "conditional" until Disclosure and Barring checks have been successfully completed; qualification checks and satisfactory references have been received and the professional skills tests passed.
Our partnership is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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Central Bedfordshire College

Recruitment Open Day

Saturday 26th April 2014
10:00am - 2:30pm
Dunstable Campus, Kingsway, Dunstable, LU5 4HG

Do you want to inspire a generation? Do you feel that you can make a difference sharing your skills and experience? Would you like to work for a company that is progressing and offers flexible hours?

Have you considered teaching?

Central Bedfordshire College is embarking on an exciting journey towards 'Outstanding' status, and would love for you to join us. Whether you're a qualified teacher or not, come along to our recruitment event and talk to our team.

Please find below some of our opportunities on offer:

- Accounting / Business
- Qualified Assessors / Verifiers
- Invigilators
- Hair & Beauty
- Sports and Associated Therapies
- Public Services
- Plumbing / Electrical Installation
- Childcare / Health & Social Care
- Science / Pharmacy
- Learning Support / Tutorials
- Travel & Tourism
- Hospitality & Catering
- Foundation Learning
- Animal Care

For further information on career opportunities, please visit www.centralbeds.ac.uk or email recruitment@centralbeds.ac.uk. Alternatively, telephone 01582 477776 and ask for the HR department.

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a regional children's charity based in Milton Keynes seeks to recruit a

Senior Business Support Assistant (adoption)
Full time 35 hours
Salary commensurate with experience
Pt 20 £19,583 - Pt 26 £23,583

Are you interested in joining a diverse, committed team in an organisation rated OUTSTANDING by Ofsted?
We are looking to recruit a motivated, enthusiastic and organised individual to support members of our Adoption Team.

For full details and application pack visit
www.sfcs.org.uk/opportunities
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Interview date: Monday 12 May 2014

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Central Bedfordshire

ASSETS ESTATES MANAGEMENT TEAM

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT SURVEYOR
£42,908 - £45,779 per annum (quote ref: 4610)
Full-time, 37 hours per week

The Estate Management Team needs an experienced Development Surveyor to provide leadership and expert advice to the Asset Development team and support them in delivering the development programme. You will manage a team to generate capital receipts and added value from CBC assets, undertake option appraisals and feasibility studies on proposed development projects and identify new development opportunities. You will have extensive experience of working in a corporate asset/land and property development environment, plus working in a highly politically orientated environment. You will be able to evidence successful project management delivery, commercial acumen and strong financial awareness.

SENIOR ESTATES SURVEYOR (INVESTMENT)
£39,448 - £42,908 per annum (quote ref: 4611)
Full-time, 37 hours per week

The Estate Management Team needs an experienced Senior Estates Surveyor to provide expert advice in delivering asset management services across a mixed portfolio. You will manage a team responsible for the investment portfolio including income generation, void management and all landlord and tenant matters relating to commercial and agricultural leases and lettings, including shops, offices, industrial units etc. You will have excellent communication, organisation and planning skills, as well as good IT skills and a strong financial awareness.

ESTATE SURVEYOR (OPERATIONAL)
£28,343 - £29,704 per annum (quote ref: 4612)
Full-time, 37 hours per week

The Estate Management Team needs an experienced Estates Surveyor to provide advice, undertake valuations and negotiate on behalf of the Council in all property matters. You will be responsible for new lettings, lease renewals, rent reviews etc, plus carry out property surveys and inspections, preparing schedules of condition and dilapidations. You will manage one direct report. You will have good communication and IT skills and good financial awareness.

For an informal discussion about the Principal Development Surveyor & Senior Estates Surveyor posts please contact Andrew Gordon 0300 300 5882 or email andrew.gordon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

For an informal discussion about the Estate Surveyor post please contact Sue Murphy on 0300 300 5979 or email sue.murphy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

To apply for all posts, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date on all posts: Monday 5th May 2014
Interview date on all posts: Week commencing 19th May 2014

Want to find out more about jobs and careers within Central Bedfordshire Council?
Follow us on Twitter @CBCouncil_jobs or visit our website

Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

Central Bedfordshire Council is committed to equal opportunities.

Bedford Borough Council

Bedford Borough Council takes great care to recruit the very best people so that the services we provide to our community are first class. We believe that the best work gets done in an environment that's enjoyable and which values, supports and encourages the development of its employees. In return we expect our employees to work hard and be committed to help us achieve our vision and share our values.

Environment and Sustainable Communities

Senior Structural Engineer
£40,254 - £43,785 • Quote ref: P001046

This is a demanding and varied role to deliver the Borough Council's Structural Engineering service across a broad spectrum of projects. These include bridge inspections, management, maintenance, assessment, design and procurement, checking calculations for Building Regulations and other capital projects.

You will be a Chartered Structural/Civil Engineer. You must be able to demonstrate a sound working knowledge through several years of recent experience of relevant Standards, Codes of Practice including Eurocodes and construction materials. The post attracts a generous leave entitlement and optional membership of the pension scheme.

CAD Technician Highways
£19,817 – £21,734 • Quote ref: 0005067

You will have excellent skills in the use of AutoCad and preferably experience in design programmes such as Keyline and Autotrack Etcetera. You will be familiar with CDM. You should be capable of designing minor highway projects with minimal guidance, completing projects to demanding timescales and within budget, carrying out surveys and experienced in using e-mapping.

Chief Executive's Department - Financial Services

Senior Compliance Officer (Local Taxation)
£31,160 - £33,998 • Quote ref: Senior Compliance

In this new role you will be expected to achieve a targeted annual increase in income for the Council by undertaking analytical and investigative work in order to maximise income through the Business Rates Retention Scheme. You will also be expected to maximise the Council Taxbase by ensuring the pro-active monitoring and review of discounts and exemptions.

You will be required to represent the Council in recovery proceedings taken in the Court as well as overseeing the Council's Bailiff Contract.

You must have a comprehensive knowledge of Council Tax and Business Rates regulations along with an IRRV or other relevant professional qualification. Substantial experience in all aspects of recovery along with experience representing a local authority in formal situations is essential.

You will need to be a good communicator, possess excellent organisational skills, be able to cope well when working under pressure and be committed to providing a high level of customer care.

For full job details on all posts visit www.bedford.gov.uk

Closing date for all posts: 6 May 2014

Posts working with children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

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Manshead School

Dunstable Road, Caddington, Beds. LU1 4BB
Number on Roll: 1069 (290 in Sixth Form)
Headteacher - Jim Parker

We are an over-subscribed 13-19 School situated on a very attractive site just south of Dunstable. From September 2014 we are expanding to become an 11-19 secondary school.

2 X TEACHER OF SCIENCE
MPS / UPS — Vacancy ID: 101095

TEACHER OF PHYSICS (0.4)
MPS/ UPS — Vacancy ID: 101097

We are looking for imaginative teachers with good classroom presence, who can inspire students with enthusiasm for Science and Physics in our expanding school. You will be joining an experienced and friendly department that is forward thinking and well supported.

We have a modern, well equipped Science department, with good ICT facilities for staff and students. There will also be opportunities to be involved in cross curricular projects and extra-curricular activities.

For further details and an application form please visit www.mansheadschool.co.uk, email: office@mansheadschool.co.uk or tel: 01582 679409

Closing date: Tuesday 6 May 2014.

Interviews will be held within 10 days of closing.

Manshead is committed to the safeguarding and promotion of children's welfare and all job offers are subject to satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau clearance.

Creating Connections, Supporting Communities
Woughton Community Council

Woughton Community Council is currently seeking to appoint to the following vacancies

Environmental Officer - 15hrs per week
Community Support Officer - 12hrs per week
Youth Worker - 5hrs per week

The Council, based in the heart of Milton Keynes, provides a wide range of services to the local community with a strong emphasis on community development.
These are part time posts based initially on a 12 month contract. Candidates must be willing to work evenings and weekends. A Disclosure and Barring Service Check at enhanced level will be required for these posts.

The successful candidates will be self motivated with excellent interpersonal skills, a good understanding of best practice in community engagement and the ability to balance competing priorities.

To receive an application pack, for further information or to arrange a visit please call 01908 395681 or
e-mail: generalenquiries@woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk
Closing date for applications: Friday 9th May 2014, 4pm
Interviews will be held w/c Monday 26th May 2014

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We are seeking candidates for the above position working within a global motor manufacturing environment in Luton. Candidates will be responsible for the creation and maintenance of vehicle parts catalogues and resolving both internal and external queries that result from the catalogue data.

Ideal candidates should be enthusiastic, technically minded, have an interest in vehicles and be able to demonstrate an understanding of the workings of a motor vehicle. Candidates must be conversant with the use of PCs including Microsoft Windows applications.

Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a full CV to:
Mr Keith Hancock, Clifford Thames Ltd, UK1-102-240, Griffin House, Osborne Road, Luton, LU1 3YT.
Or E-mail: keith.hancock@gm.com

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To apply please send your CV to Steve Adams on sadams@mortimers.co.uk or call 01582 471 155.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES TOP TRACK 250 2013 Grant Thornton

Manshead School
Dunstable Road, Caddington, Beds. LU1 4BB
Number on Roll: 1069 (290 in Sixth Form)
Headteacher - Jim Parker

IT NETWORK TECHNICIAN

£17,505 - £19,510 p.a. Vacancy ID: 101176

37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year

We are looking for a technician to join our very customer-focused and friendly IT Network Management team. The successful applicant will bring customer, business and technical skills. Over recent years we have invested to improve all aspects of accessibility and future-proofing in our IT infrastructure, underpinned with exceptional network robustness and resilience. The team is small, so the opportunities to develop all areas of technical expertise are considerable.

For further details and an application form please contact Ian Stowe at the school address, tel: 01582 679407 or email: stowei@mansheadschool.co.uk

Closing date: 6 May 2014.

Interview date: within 14 days of closing.

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Contact: Asma Awan 07999118098.
www.smartraspberry.com

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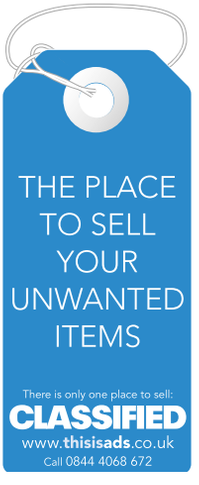

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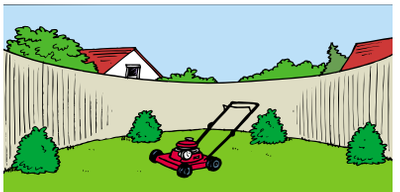

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notices

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(A) THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (A4146 KELLY'S KITCHEN ROUNDABOUT TO A422 ABBEY HILL ROUNDABOUT, MILTON KEYNES) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 201_

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an Order on the A5 Trunk Road in Milton Keynes to enable resurfacing, renewal of road markings and road studs and associated maintenance works to be carried out in safety.

The works are expected to take place over 25 nights (10pm – 5am) beginning on or after Monday 19 May 2014. Works would be suspended over the bank holiday period.

The effect of the Order would be to close, alternately, the A5 -

- northbound and southbound carriageways between the A4146 Brickhill St/Watling St Roundabout (known locally as Kelly's Kitchen Roundabout) and the A422 Abbey Hill Roundabout,
- entry slip roads to the southbound carriageway from the roundabouts at A422 Abbey Hill, A509 Portway, A421 Redmoor and A4146 Caldecotte, and
- entry slip roads to the northbound carriageway from the roundabouts at A4146 Bletcham, A421 Redmoor Roundabout and A509 Portway.

Northbound traffic would be diverted via Watling Street, Saxon Street, Grafton Street and Monks Way and vice versa for southbound.

All lay-bys adjacent to the lengths of A5 described above would be closed for 24 hours daily for the duration of the works from midday on Monday 19 May.

The Order would come into force on 13 May 2014 and have a maximum duration of eighteen months.

The closures (which would not apply to works, emergency service or traffic officer vehicles) and diversion route would be clearly indicated by traffic signs throughout the works.

Mrs A V Middleton, An official of the Highways Agency

General Enquiries relating to this notice may be made in writing to Anna Graham at the Highways Agency, Woodlands, Manton Lane, Bedford, MK41 7LW or by telephoning 01234 796104 or by email to anna.graham@highways.gsi.gov.uk

Public Notices

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
(THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (MICHIGAN DRIVE (PARTS), TONGWELL) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2008)
VARIATION ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has, on the 22nd April 2014, made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will affect all classes of vehicle and have the following effects:

The introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions along some lengths of Delaware Drive and at the junction of Maryland Road with Delaware Drive, Tongwell;

Additional no waiting at any time restrictions along parts of Michigan Drive, Tongwell.

This Order will come into effect from the 24th April 2014.

The classes of vehicle affected by the Order are passenger vehicles, dual-purpose vehicles, goods vehicles, disabled persons' vehicles, mopeds and motorcycles. Exemptions from the Order include: emergency service vehicles, statutory undertakers, some loading and unloading, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the Order as made together with a map showing the areas referred to may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, Newport Pagnell Library, St John Street, Newport Pagnell and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Please quote reference WL/P&E/8862/TRO/2326.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any provision contained in the Order on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order was made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

23rd April 2014

Civic Offices — **Sharon Bridglalsingh**
1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes — Head of Legal Services

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES
ALTERATIONS TO WAITING, LOADING, STOPPING AND PARKING
RESTRICTIONS IN MILTON KEYNES AND SURROUNDING AREAS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has on 23 April 2014 made the 5 Orders entitled below under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Orders, all of which come into effect on 24 April 2014 affect all classes of vehicle and have the following effects in parts of roads adjacent to and surrounding schools within Greenleys (St Mary Magdalene), Oxley Park (Oxley Park Academy), Shenley Brook End (SBE Secondary School and Long Meadow School), Stantonbury (Stanton School), Tattenhoe (Giles Brook School), Stony Stratford (Russell Street School), Two Mile Ash (Ashbrook School) and Newport Pagnell (Ousedale School), Milton Keynes:-

- The introduction of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on parts of roads within Greenleys, Stantonbury, Oxley Park, Shenley Brook End, Two Mile Ash and Tattenhoe.
- The alteration of 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions along parts of roads within Oxley Park, Bradville, Stony Stratford, and Tattenhoe.
- The introduction of loading restrictions along parts of Carrington Road and The Grove, Newport Pagnell.
- The introduction of one disabled persons' parking place in Long Meadow School Car Park, Garthwaite Crescent, Shenley Brook End.
- The introduction of limited waiting between 8.00 am and 9.30 am, and 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday along part of Ardwell Lane, Greenleys.
- The introduction of limited waiting between 8.30 am and 9.15 am, and 2.30 pm and 3.30 pm Monday to Friday along parts of Corn Hill and Stone Hill, Two Mile Ash.
- The introduction of loading restrictions between 8.30 am and 9.15 am, and 2.30 pm and 3.30 pm Monday to Friday along parts of Corn Hill and Stone Hill, Two Mile Ash.

Exemptions from the Orders include emergency service vehicles, military vehicles, statutory undertakers, building, demolition and excavation, disabled persons badge holders, and some others.

Copies of the Orders together with maps showing the areas referred to, and a Statement of Reasons for proposing the Orders may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, Stony Stratford Library, 5-7 Church Street, Stony Stratford, Wolverton Library, Town Hall, Creed Street, Wolverton, Westcroft Library, 17-18 Barnsdale Drive, Westcroft, Newport Pagnell Library, St John Street, Newport Pagnell, and Bletchley Library, Westfield Road, Bletchley, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Orders or any provision contained in the Orders on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under the Act has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date on which the Orders were made, apply to the High Court for that purpose.

23 April 2014

Civic Offices — **Sharon Bridglalsingh**
1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes — Head of Legal Services

Order Titles

1. **The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes (Various Roads Within Milton Keynes And Surrounding Areas) (Prohibition Of Stopping Outside Schools) Order 2008) Variation Order 2014**
2. **The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes (The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes) (Various Roads, Stony Stratford) (Consolidation Of Parking And Waiting Restrictions) Order 2002) Variation Order 2014**
3. **The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes (The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes) (Various Roads, Two Mile Ash) (Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting) Order 2011) Variation Order 2014**
4. **The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes (Various Roads, Newport Pagnell) (Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting) Order 2009) Variation Order 2014**
5. **The Council Of The Borough Of Milton Keynes (Various Roads Within Greenleys, Oxley Park, Shenley Brook End, Stantonbury And Tattenhoe) (Prohibition And Restriction Of Waiting And Parking Restrictions) Order 2014**

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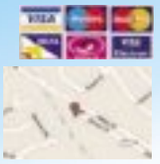

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DONS

Skipper poised to make it 500 appearances in a Dons shirt

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

DEAN Lewington hopes to step out in an MK Dons shirt for the 500th time at the New York Stadium on Saturday against Rotherham United, and he admits the number has come as something of a surprise to him.

The Dons captain, who only turns 30 next month, will remarkably join the 500 club playing purely for Dons, with him making his debut for Wimbledon in a 4-2 defeat at Sheffield Wednesday towards the end of the 2002-03 season.

Since then he has seen some sights, firstly moving to Milton Keynes, surviving and then suffering relegation to League Two, before a Wembley win in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy and promotion to League One.

For six of those years, Lewington has been captain, but if he does make it to 500 on Saturday, his mind will only be on one thing – three points from Rotherham.

"It has surprised me that I've reached 500 games," said Lewington.

"It has taken a lot of years and a lot of games to get there and as you get older the seasons get quicker, so it's surprising that you've played that many games, but it's a good milestone.

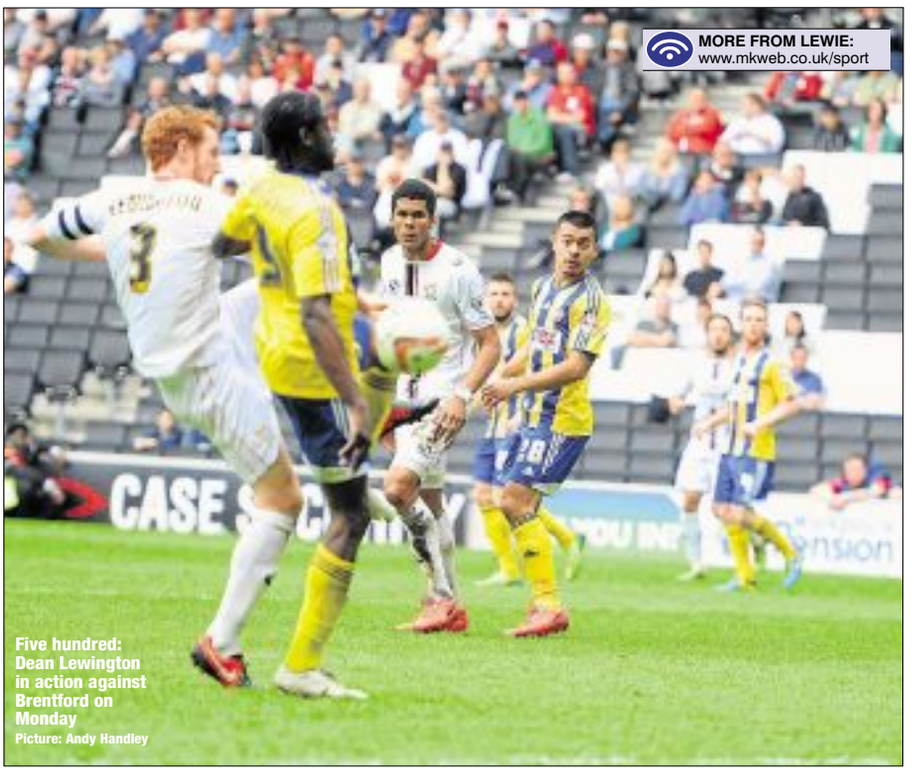
"In terms of highlights, my debut was obviously a big thing, and Gareth Edds scoring twice to keep us up when we beat Tranmere was a big, big game.

"The Wembley trip was fantastic and Stockport away when we got promoted were some great days, as well as the cup game against QPR.

"But it won't bother me at all when I step out against Rotherham and it'll be a big enough test, so I'll be fully focused on that."

It is a remarkable achievement to stay with the same club for so long, and Lewington says he has always felt happy at Dons.

"I'm very close to the staff here and I've always been happy to be here," he said.



Five hundred: Dean Lewington in action against Brentford on Monday
Picture: Andy Handley

To honour the skipper, fans will wear orange to 'match' his hair colour in the Leyton Orient match a week on Saturday, and Lewington thanked the fans for their gesture.

"I don't really know what to say about that," he said.

"I thought they might have gone for more of an auburn route rather than orange, or maybe a light brown sort of colour!

"But it will add a bit of fun on the day and it's a nice gesture."

As for the future, the skipper says he feels fitter than he ever has.

"I just want to keep trying to improve and I feel better than I did when I was 17 or 18," he said.

Dons' immediate future was given a huge boost when the club got rid of their home form hoodoo following a run of six games without a goal at stadiummk, following Stephen Gleeson's penalty and Izale McLeod's header earning a 2-2 draw against Brentford on Easter Monday.

And with Rotherham and Leyton Orient on the horizon, Lewington wants to end the season on a positive note.

"There's personal pride on the line and we don't want to end the season on a negative," he said.

"The gaffer has said there will be lots of changes next year so players will be trying to keep in those plans for next season, which means there's plenty to play for.

"Monday was encouraging and at 2-0 down we could have easily buckled."

Lewington felt it was his best performance playing centre back – where he deputised for the injured Antony Kay – but he feels his regular position at left back is his best position at the moment.

MK Dons midfielder DARREN POTTER writes exclusively for MK News

DAVID Moyes was sacked as Manchester United manager yesterday (Tuesday) and I thought he would have been given more time than he has.

I'm not surprised about him being sacked because it's a results business. To be honest, it doesn't look right to see them seventh because they're miles off the pace and out of every single cup competition.

It's a strange scenario in that Sir Alex Ferguson helped pick Moyes, and I don't think that would happen at any other club, but with the success he had, it was probably right that he had some sort of say.

It was always going to be the hardest job following Sir Alex Ferguson, and I think the next person will probably have it slightly easier following Moyes than Ferguson.

At Dons we're finally rid of the run where we haven't scored at home, and I think that relief was shown by the reaction of the fans when Stephen Gleeson's penalty went in against Brentford on Monday.

It lifted that weight off our shoulders and the lads kept pushing and we got our reward with the late equaliser to draw 2-2.

You've got to give Brentford a lot of credit – they came to stadiummk and put out a really strong team when I'm sure there were quite a few celebrations when they knew they would be going up on Friday.

They showed us a lot of respect by putting out as strong a team as they did and the table doesn't lie – they're a very good team.

We have Rotherham United this weekend up in Yorkshire and it's the nature of our job that we will go into the game wanting to win, despite us not being able to still reach the play-offs.

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5	Leyton Orient	44	12	3	7	41	23	11	8	3	39	21	+36	80	
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9	Port Vale	44	13	3	6	34	28	5	3	14	24	43	-13	60	
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CLW

NEWPORT Pagnell Town will play United Counties League Premier Division football next season after claiming four points from their two Easter games to preserve their status.

On Easter Saturday the Swans, who are 16th, thrashed bottom club Stewarts & Lloyds 5-0, before they picked up a good 1-1 draw against AFC Kempston Rovers on Monday.

Manager Darren Lynch headed Newport in front after six minutes on Saturday, and following a sending off, Town made the advantage count thanks to Craig Ralph, Lewis Smith, Luca Semeniero and James Gregory.

On Monday, the lunch time encounter ended with honours even at Hillgrounds. The Swans took the lead through Matt Brady a minute before the hour but Steph Kemoagna squared the contest with a 73rd minute equaliser.

Seventh placed Olney Town drew 2-2 at home to Peterborough Sports on Saturday in Division One, while on Monday they lost 2-1 at Buckingham Town.

Stony Stratford Town suffered a tough Easter weekend in Division One of the Spartan South Midlands Football League.

A 3-0 defeat at home to Risborough Rangers was followed by a 3-1 loss at Crawley Green, and they remain third from bottom.

In Division Two on Saturday, Old Bradwell United narrowly succeeded over Wolverton Town 3-2, while New Bradwell St Peter lost by the same scoreline to Pitstone & Ivinghoe. Willen drew 0-0 at Tring Corinthians.

On Monday, Wolverton Town lost again, 3-0 at Aston Clinton. It was also a tough Easter for Willen, who lost 2-1 at Kent Athletic, while Old Bradwell United lost 6-2 against Pitstone & Ivinghoe.

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FORMULA ONE

Wanting a podium

No podium: Sebastian Vettel in front of Fernando Alonso and Daniel Ricciardo in China

DANIEL Ricciardo out-paced Sebastian Vettel once again at the Chinese Grand Prix, and the Australian says he is desperate to record his first podium finish.

Ricciardo finished second on the day in the Australian Grand Prix last month, but that was taken away from him due to disqualification and he is still looking for a first top three finish this season after Shanghai.

Despite starting in China on the front row of the grid, Ricciardo slipped back to fourth, with Red Bull Racing team-mate Vettel starting third and finishing fifth.

Mercedes continued their dominance this season with another one-two, courtesy of Lewis Hamilton winning and Nico Rosberg finishing second.

"It's going well with the team, I feel comfortable here and I did the best I could," said Ricciardo.

"I really want that podium and we're getting close.

"At the end I was doing all I could to catch [Fernando] Alonso in third and I think we got to within a couple of seconds of him as we went over the line."

Vettel is still not happy with the car's straight line speed, and says there is still plenty of work to do to catch up with the all-conquering Mercedes.

"I'm not yet where I want to be with the car, but it's an on-going process," said Vettel.

"Hopefully at the next few races we will make some more steps in the right direction. Our weakness isn't in the corners, but on the straights. The first stint today was okay but after that I'm not sure what happened."

Christian Horner, team principal for the Tilbrook team, said: "I think the wet conditions in qualifying helped us get higher starting positions up the grid. In the dry race, ultimately fourth and fifth is realistically where we were this weekend.

"Mercedes again were particularly strong and Ferrari carried their form through from Friday into a dry race. We know we have a lot of work to do."

Defending world champion Vettel, who was caught up in another team orders row after initially refusing a command to let Ricciardo past in China, is fifth in the overall standings with his team-mate sixth.

Red Bull are second in the constructors' championship but Mercedes already have a 97 point lead at the top. The Spanish Grand Prix is next up on May 11.

SPEEDWAY

Knights see off Vikings

MILTON Keynes Knights saw off a determined challenge from Coventry Vikings with a 23-13 win in a top of the table Midland Development League clash on Sunday.

Coventry used two riders from their National League team and they certainly looked to provide the Knights with their toughest challenge of the season so far.

Milton Keynes drafted in Connor Mountain, from the Mildenhall Fen Tigers, to replace the ill Rik Mullins.

The Knights provided four out of the six heat winners and picked up second or third in all but one of the races.

It was another robust all round team performance, again led by captain Jez Pestell, as the Knights ran out victors at their home venue at Mildenhall.

Niall Strudwick sustained no serious injuries from a horrific crash in heat five, though his bike did suffer significant damage.

The win means the Knights remain top of the league with a 100 per cent record of three wins from three meetings and they now look forward to an away trip to Belle Vue on April 28.

Milton Keynes must also prepare for the visit of Kings Lynn on May 4 for their next home meeting.

Victory: Sam Chapman of MK Knights

RUGBY LEAGUE

Charity match to raise funds for hospital

MILTON Keynes Wolves get the third season in their history under way on Saturday with a charity match at Emerson Valley.

There is another week until the inaugural East Rugby League 9s tournament, which will mark the official start of the 2014 season, but Wolves will be able to warm up for that this weekend with the game for a good cause.

Club captain Scott Aspinall, who was instrumental in founding the club back in 2012, was keen to raise funds for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Aspinall's son Nathan was born with a coarctation of the aorta – a life-threatening condition that narrows the major artery carrying blood away from the heart – and holes in the heart.

He underwent open-heart surgery at Great Ormond Street while only three days old.

Thankfully, that operation was a success, and Nathan is now a fit, healthy three year old.

Aspinall approached local rivals Bedford Tigers, who generously agreed to support this game by sending across their seconds team with their firsts already having a game lined up for the day.

In the spirit of this charity game, every player will be asked to donate £5 to play, and the teams will be mixed up to encourage friendly competition.

Aspinall said: "Great Ormond Street saved my son's life at just three days old, and I wanted to do something to say thank you."

A charity auction will take place in the Emerson Valley clubhouse after the game, with a signed shirt donated by Super League side St Helens, and a ball signed by rugby union big boys Wasps up for grabs.

Anyone who wants to submit an early bid for either of these items can do so by e-mailing MiltonKeynesRL@gmail.com – all proceeds will be donated to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

• Find out more at http://www.gosh.org/gen/why-we-need-your-help/.

SPORTSSHORTS

ATHLETICS

MARSHALL Milton Keynes Athletic Club won their opening Sweatshop Southern Athletics League match at Stantonbury, taking full advantage of being on home turf.

Having slipped from Division One last year, the club are now fourth in Division Two North, behind Thames Valley Harriers, Herts Phoenix and Ipswich who collected more points in winning other matches elsewhere.

It was rivals Luton, Peterborough and Dacorum & Tring who failed to contain MK as they dominated their meeting.

The middle distance events proved most successful on the track, starting with a superb double win in the 800m by Ross Threlfall and Sam Deathe. The 1500m produced the same results with wins for Chad Lambert and Liam Smith.

In the men's 2000m steeplechase, Ryan Burling (M23) showed his class, winning in 6m,28.59s, while the women's 1500m event was won by Sophie Gibbens in 5m 34.17s.

It was a great double win for the Gibbens sisters, Sophie and Rachel, in the high jump, and another double followed in the pole Vault as Rachel reached 3.60m. The triple jump saw a win for Laura Zialor with 11.43m and Becky Hardy's 9.80m made it a fine double, while there were another three wins in the shot as well as two more in the hammer.

At the Oxford City open meeting, Scott Herbert broke the club veteran's record for 200m, setting the new mark at 23.92s and Annie Jankowiak (F15) lowered her best to 28.30s.

The good form continued at the Kettering Open Meeting with William Clarke setting new personal best times in the 200m in 26.2s and the 400m in 60.7s. Not to be out done James Dowsett (M13) reduced his 200m best to 33.2s and set a PB in the 800m with 2m 47.8s.

There was a positive PB fest at the Welwyn Garden City Open with the 100m recording a best time for Lee Westley (M17) in 11.2s and Archie Rippin (M17) running 12.1s in the 200m.

There were also PBs galore in the 300m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, and 75m hurdles. There were two best performances in the long jump as Harrison Reed leapt 5.21m and in the discus there was a 20.12m throw from James Ericson-Nicholls.

CRICKET

STONY Stratford CC get their league season underway on Saturday when they travel to Finedon Dolben in the Northamptonshire Cricket League Premier.

Meanwhile the Four Counties League also begins, with defending champions North Crawley taking on New City (Milton Keynes). The other Division One matches see Olney Town entertain Eaton Bray, and Milton Keynes CC travel to Elstow. In Division Two, Aspley Guise will play North Crawley's second string.

RUGBY UNION

CHAMPIONS Bletchley RFC had an easy finish to their season when they were handed a walkover by Swindon College Old Boys. It means Bletchley finish their Southern Counties North season top on 97 points, to secure an immediate return to South West One East.

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Lewington poised to reach 500 - page 66

Robbo's delight at end of home goal hoodoo

BY SCOTT KIRK

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MK DONS manager Karl Robinson said he was delighted about his side finally breaking their home hoodoo of more than ten hours without a goal at stadiummk.

Stephen Gleeson's 80th minute penalty and Izale McLeod's fantastic injury time header gave Dons an unlikely point as they came from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with promoted Brentford on Easter Monday.

Robinson's side had gone six home games without scoring since Ben Reeves' winner against Oldham way back on February 15.

The boss hopes that now the monkey of failing to score at home is off his side's back, they can concentrate on picking up two good results against play-off sides in their final two matches of the season – the trip to Rotherham United on Saturday, and then the visit of Leyton Orient a week on Saturday.

Dons can now only match last season's finish of eighth but they could finish as low as 13th and will be determined not to let their season fizzle out completely after their own play-off dreams evaporated.

"Brentford was all about the work ethic and they've worked extremely hard," said Robinson. "I thought we stood up to the test in the second half. It's a tremendous relief and weight lifted off our shoulders to get rid of the burden of not scoring at home. It was an important moment for us moving forward."

Robinson thought his senior players were particularly crucial to his side finally scoring not just one but two goals in front of their own fans.

"One thing about the group is that the young players have got some great game time but let's give a note to Dean Lewington, Alan Smith, Izale McLeod and Stephen Gleeson because I thought they worked their socks off," said Robinson.

"Their work ethic was there for all to see."

Monday was McLeod's first goal of the season at stadiummk as the striker has struggled for form at home, and Robinson praised how hard he worked.

"Every ball we hit he was there," said Robinson. "He was making them make mistakes, he was rough and ready and he scored a wonderful header. I couldn't ask for any more from him."

Another senior player Robinson mentioned was skipper Dean Lewington, who was asked to fill in at centre back due to the absence of Antony Kay.

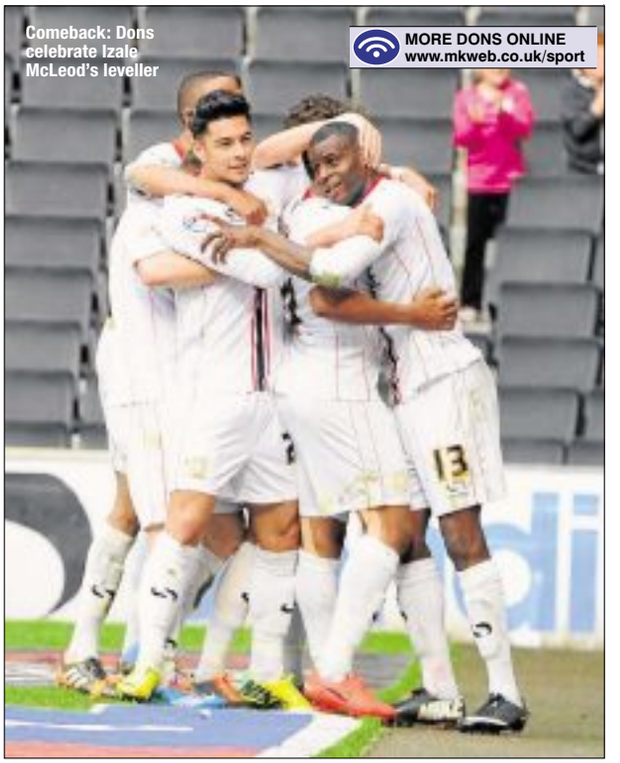
Lewington celebrates his 500th game against Rotherham and Robinson feels that his captain is a great role model for youngsters.

"He's a tremendous captain and I'm very fortunate to have him," he said. "This industry needs role models and wants to breed role models and he certainly does that with his industry and effort."

Gleeson's future is a topic for debate at present, with his contract up at the end of the campaign, and Robinson thought that the Irish midfielder took a lot of frustration for the season out on his penalty.

"I think he hit that ball as hard as he could and I think he took out a lot of frustration in that penalty," he said. "That shows that he does care and I want to keep our best players motivated at the club."

The ultimate ambition for Robinson though is to emulate Brentford, who will be playing Championship football next season following their promotion as runners up. "We want to emulate Brentford in terms of having a big squad, a strong squad, keeping our best players and bringing good ones in, and with those components we'll hopefully get success," he added. Brentford drawing crowned Wolves as champions.



Comeback: Dons celebrate Izale McLeod's leveller

MORE DONS ONLINE www.mkweb.co.uk/sport

Izale to focus on remaining games after Bees strike

STRIKER Izale McLeod is not looking beyond this season as he aims to fire the goals to propel MK Dons up the League One table.

McLeod is out of contract at the end of the campaign, but when asked whether he thought he would be at the club next year, he said his thoughts were not straying beyond the Rotherham United game this Saturday and the season ender with Leyton Orient next week.

"I'm just concentrating on the next two games and at the end of the season we will all sit down and try to sort something out," said McLeod, the club's all time leading scorer who is in his second spell at the club.

"But I'm going to concentrate on these next two games and then we'll take it from there."

This season has largely been a frustrating one for McLeod, who found himself on the bench for large periods before Christmas because of Chelsea loanee Patrick Bamford's form, and Easter Monday against Brentford saw his first goal at stadiummk during the campaign.

His wonderful header in injury time gave Dons a point against the promoted Bees and McLeod's work rate impressed his manager Karl Robinson.

"I'm really pleased that we came back from 2-0 down and the boys worked really hard and showed some good character," added McLeod.

"It would have been easy to fold, especially with the team we were playing, who were already promoted, but I got the equaliser at the end and I was really chuffed for the fans."

The game put an end to Dons' six home games without a goal, which McLeod was happy about.

"Everyone's aware it's a pressure on the boys, strikers especially, because we want to play entertaining football, we want to try and score as many goals as we can," he said.

"It was just happening that we were getting goals away from home and not getting them here but hopefully that sets us off now."

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